

After initial training, he was sent to Bien Hwah, Vietnam, as a member of the 118th Assault Helicopter Company. He was promoted to a crew chief and worked on Huey helicopters after 3 months and was eventually promoted to E-5 sergeant. He flew on a wide variety of missions from troop transport to supplies drops, and on many of the missions he was also the door gunner. In 1967, he returned to the United States and served at Fort Steward, Georgia, until he was discharged in January of 1969.

Sergeant Lee was originally from Minnesota, but while stationed at Fort Steward he was invited to go home with a member of his unit to Sevierville where he met a beautiful young woman who would later become his wife. They were married in March of 1968 and have been together for 54 wonderful years. They have three sons who are his pride and joy.

Sergeant Lee also loves the Lord with all his heart, and his faith in God is incredibly important to him. He has been a faithful member of the Grace Baptist Church for 21 years. Our country's heroes are the men and women of our Armed Forces, Madam Speaker, like Sergeant Lee, and I rise to honor him as Tennessee's Second District's May 2022 Veteran of the Month.

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#### NOBODY IS FREE UNTIL EVERYBODY IS FREE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. PRESSLEY) for 5 minutes.

Ms. PRESSLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in solidarity with the one in four women across this country who have had an abortion and every person who will ever seek abortion care; your neighbor, co-worker, family member, those whom you work with, Madam Speaker, and, yes, those whom you worship with, too.

I stand with the mother of three working double shifts to make ends meet, who just could not manage the physical demands of another pregnancy; the student who made the decision to finish their degree and begin their family on their own terms—no shame, no stigma, and no regrets; and the young parents who received the heart-wrenching news that they have miscarried and will need abortion care immediately.

I rise today to proclaim: I see you, I love you, and I stand with you. Carry no shame for your healthcare choice.

The only shame is that there are forces at work to deny you it. And while my heart is heavy, my spirit is resolved and determined.

Madam Speaker, there are many who have arrived at this moment with newfound outrage at the prospect of this reversal of law. But many of us have been in the trenches of this fight for a long time, and we are not surprised. Reproductive justice organizers, Black, Brown, indigenous, disabled, and

LGBTQ-plus folks have been sounding the alarm, raising their voices, and putting our bodies on the line in protest as anti-choice lawmakers across the country wage a full-fledged assault on our reproductive rights and freedom.

For too long, the right to control our own bodies, the right to determine our own fate, and the right to decide if and when we have a child is up for debate in the Halls of power.

Madam Speaker, we have been called hysterical, and we have been called fearmongers, and when I talk about who will disproportionately bear the brunt of this, we have been called race-baiters.

This is no drill, and I take no joy in saying: I told you so.

I have stood on the steps of City Hall in Boston. I have organized on the Boston Common. I have stood at the State House in Boston, and I have stood on the steps of the Supreme Court chanting: "Nobody is free until everybody is free. Liberate abortion."

Madam Speaker, nobody is free until everybody is free. SCOTUS has offered empty words in their leaked draft ruling and then threw up barricades and fences knowing full well that the majority of people who call this Nation home vehemently disagree.

SCOTUS claims that our human rights are invalidated by their opinions of what is and isn't rooted in our Nation's "history and traditions."

A quick history lesson: our Nation's history and traditions denied my very personhood. Our Nation's history and traditions bought and sold my ancestors. Our Nation's history and traditions exploited the bodies of people who look like me.

Our full humanity, our bodily autonomy, and our collective liberation hang in the balance.

Madam Speaker, the Court fails to live up to its ideals and its purpose. The idea of equal justice under the law has been a rallying cry but not a reality for many. The anti-abortion movement in America is rooted in organized white supremacy, and overturning *Roe v. Wade* would only perpetuate cycles of poverty and trap our most vulnerable in systems of oppression.

None of this is abstract. There is a history of medical apartheid in this country against Black, Brown, immigrant, indigenous, and disabled folks. And right now we find ourselves living in a Black maternal morbidity crisis where Black women are three times more likely to die from pregnancy-related complications than White women—to die.

We have suffered a history of forced sterilization and experimentation on Black, Brown, and disabled bodies without our consent. And now there exists a systemic prospect of folks being forced to carry a pregnancy against their will—forced birth—in the same country where we deprive families with universal healthcare, childcare, and paid medical and family leave.

Abortion bans would put legal, safe, and necessary abortion care out of reach for millions, especially our most vulnerable. So Congress must act. This Democratic-controlled House, Senate, and White House—the majority—must mean more than a talking point, and we must legislate as if lives depend on it, because they do.

To my Senate colleagues on the other side of this Capitol, I ask of you—no, I demand—that you act. We have the voice. We have the power. We have a mandate. It is time for action. Anything else is insufficient.

Abolish the Jim Crow filibuster. Pass the Women's Health Protection Act, which I am a proud original cosponsor of, and enshrine the fundamental human right to abortion care in Federal law once and for all. I cannot stomach one more lecture about the preservation of civil liberties when you seek to deny me the very freedom and agency over my own body.

Nobody is free until everybody is free.

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#### HONORING ROSS BOOKER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ross Booker, a 20-year-old tow truck operator and volunteer firefighter who tragically lost his life on March 6 after being struck by a vehicle. He was in the process of assisting Champaign police officers in removing debris from an accident scene.

Ross graduated from St. Joseph-Ogden High School in 2020, earned his FFA American Degree, and attended Parkland College for diesel mechanics. He was a volunteer firefighter with the St. Joseph-Stanton Fire Protection District and set out to live a life of service, and serve he did. Even now, Ross continues to serve through the gift of organ donation.

Ross' firefighter family remembers him as a young man whose passion was inspirational to others. Friends describe Ross as an old soul filled with compassion, hard work, respect, and love for his family and friends.

To honor Ross' life, please slow down and move over for emergency vehicles. In Illinois, it is the law. We call it Scott's Law in honor of another firefighter who was tragically struck and killed in 2000.

My prayers are with Ross' parents, David and Marita; his brother, Anthony; and all of his friends and family throughout the communities he made better with his service. He will be truly missed.

#### RECOGNIZING BLAKE RODERICK'S RETIREMENT

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Blake Roderick. There is not a more noble career than one devoted to serving others. Blake Roderick did exactly this through his time at the Pike-Scott Farm Bureau.

Starting in 1981, Blake began a career dedicated to serving and guiding farmers in Illinois. Now, after 40 years, Blake announced he will be retiring this year.

Blake served as executive director, and during his tenure, he successfully protected farm bureau members' private property, helped his members prepare and recover from floods, served as the editor of *The Farm Post*, and oversaw the merging of the Pike and Scott Farm Bureaus into the present Pike-Scott Farm Bureau.

For his work with the farm bureau, he has received multiple Liberty Bell awards that recognize farm bureau staffers and leaders for their work in serving their members and for their work in policymaking.

I congratulate Blake on a long and accomplished career. Blake has served his members and his community well. His leadership and expertise will be missed.

Blake, it was great to get to know you back in the late 1990s, and I wish you a happy retirement. You have truly earned it.

HONORING DAVID P. HAUCK

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the long, impactful career of David P. Hauck, the Capitol's first Director of Accessibility Services, who, through his determination, kindness, and commitment to ensure that the Capitol is open to individuals of all capabilities, established and led the joint Office of Congressional Accessibility Services for the last 14 years.

At the end of this month, Dave is retiring after over 27 years of public service, but his impact across this campus will last for generations to come.

Over those nearly three decades, Dave and his OCAS team have become an institution on the Hill, assisting countless offices and impacting exponentially more individuals, including Members of Congress, dignitaries, staff, and visitors from every corner of America and all over the world.

Beyond the day-to-day education and guidance that Dave carries out with a can-do attitude, during his career, he has been consulted on every major event, including 30 joint sessions of Congress, seven Presidential inaugurations, and the lying in state or lying in honor of numerous great Americans.

He has approached every request with kindness, commitment, and a dedication to truly help in any way he can.

Originally from Minnesota, Dave began his career on Capitol Hill as a part-time elevator operator on the Senate side while finishing up his graduate studies at American University. Shortly after, he became the Senate Foreign Relations Committee's hearing coordinator under the leadership and guidance of Mr. Bertie Bowman in a Congress very different than what we have today.

Yet, Dave has never skipped a beat. From advising on post-9/11 security

changes across campus, to witnessing the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act, to assisting with the design of the Capitol Visitor Center, he has established an office and built a team that provides a full slate of accessibility services and education.

His legacy could not be clearer. He has played a keystone role in ensuring that we remain the people's House.

I wish to share my gratefulness for the many ways Dave has helped my team and those of fellow Members and express my sincere congratulations to him on his retirement from Congress. He will truly be missed, but he has established a strong, capable team that will no doubt carry on the essential and impactful work of ensuring that all Capitol campus events are accessible to all.

#### SUPPORTING CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO ABORTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. DELBENE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. DELBENE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of a woman's constitutional right to an abortion.

Last week, the Nation got a shocking glimpse into the nightmare scenario many of us have feared for months. The dangerous draft Supreme Court opinion would overrule nearly 50 years of legal precedent by overturning *Roe v. Wade*.

This decision would not only reverse *Roe*, but it mocks it and all those who have defended this fundamental right for half a century.

Should this ruling become final, it will represent the culmination of a decades-long effort by Republicans to undermine the basic human rights of millions of Americans, their privacy, and their bodily autonomy. It breaks my heart that my daughter might soon have fewer rights than I did at her age.

While the draft from the Court would send the question on abortion access back to the States, where over half of women and girls of reproductive age could face immediate bans or limits to this basic medical care, I have no doubt that anti-abortion activists will not stop there.

Republican Governors and State legislators are moving swiftly to pass new abortion bans and restrictions so that they are ready for a final ruling in a few weeks.

Even more terrifying, the Republican leader in the Senate acknowledged that, should they gain control of Congress, they will pursue a nationwide abortion ban. This would be an alarming new level of government interference in the private lives of Americans.

The disdain and disrespect for women are palpable throughout the draft decision, and we cannot allow our country that was founded on freedom and liberty to fall backward.

Americans see this draft for what it is: blatantly political. Nothing in my

lifetime would threaten the legitimacy of the Court more than finalizing this decision.

Justice Sotomayor called this out during oral argument when she said: "Will this institution survive the stench that this creates in the public perception that the Constitution and its reading are just political acts? I don't see how it is possible."

Reading this document reminded me of a mother in my district. She has two healthy children and then became pregnant with a third. The pregnancy was challenging and ultimately threatened her life. She was put in the impossible position of terminating the pregnancy for her own health.

Fortunately, she lived in Washington State, where we have a law that protects the right to an abortion. If she lived in a State without abortion access, her only option would have been to take time off work, find childcare, and make a costly journey to a State where she could get this procedure. This is a burden that many women of color, low-income women, and women living with domestic violence simply cannot bear.

I ask everyone to put yourself in this woman's shoes and ask yourself what you would do if a pregnancy threatened your life. I also ask you to put yourself in the shoes of a woman who became pregnant after being raped and is still expected to carry the baby to term, as would be the case in many States should this decision go forward. These are the decisions I fear too many women in this country will soon be forced to make.

My colleagues on the other side who have pushed for this outcome for decades call themselves pro-life, but I couldn't disagree more. A pro-life party would support children and their mothers; pro-life would support more affordable and accessible childcare; pro-life would support paid family and medical leave.

They have voted time and time again to repeal the Affordable Care Act, which prohibits women from being charged more for the same health coverage or insurance companies from deciding a pregnancy is a preexisting condition. Every single one of my Republican colleagues voted against expanding the child tax credit, which in just 6 months lifted 3.7 million children out of poverty and was a historic tax cut for middle-class families. It is their actions that have brought us to this moment.

Finally, this is also an economic issue for women and families. As Treasury Secretary Yellen said recently: "Eliminating the right of women to make decisions about when and whether to have children would have very damaging effects on the economy and set women back decades."

This is a woman's decision. I will keep fighting until we pass the Women's Health Protection Act and enshrine this constitutional right into law once and for all.