

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.

DANGEROUS BIPARTISAN  
CONSENSUS ON UKRAINE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GAETZ) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to warn of a dangerous bipartisan consensus that is walking us into war with Russia.

In the days following Russia's illegal invasion of Ukraine, Senator ROB PORTMAN said: "I haven't seen this kind of unity since 9/11." It is a nice statement, but what does it really mean?

Unity always seems to come before the worst decisions we make. Our drive to unity often overruns our reason and discernment. The post-9/11 consensus gave us the Iraq war, the PATRIOT Act.

The COVID lockdowns and mandates came from unity bundled by fear. Defund the police took off because dissent wasn't allowed. You were shouted down as a racist, just as now questioning our actions in Ukraine makes you a traitor.

Do we have amnesia in this House? Is memory loss a consequence of the gerontocracy of Congress? Just a year ago, we lost a war against goat herders waving rifles. Now, we are rushing to fight a nation that possesses 6,000 nuclear warheads.

Representatives now recklessly assert that we are at war. Congressman MOULTON said last week: "We are not just at war to support the Ukrainians. We are fundamentally at war, although somewhat through a proxy, with Russia."

The clandestine services are supposed to be the quiet professionals. Seems now they can't stop bragging to news outlets about how America helped Ukraine assassinate Russian generals and sink Russia's flagship.

How exactly is this supposed to end? It is as if the administration is probing Putin's nuclear red line.

A game of chicken between nuclear powers is insane, and this from Joe Biden, who campaigned to be America's calming sedative. From Russia, I worry about nuclear weapons, not broken tanks.

Last night, this House approved \$40 billion for Ukraine as American families go without baby formula. To put that in context, Biden's budget calls for \$15.3 billion for Customs and Border Protection, so apparently, Ukraine is more than twice as important as our homeland.

Two weeks ago, we voted on the Ukraine lend-lease act. I was 1 of just 10 Representatives to vote "no," and here was the response from MSNBC: "GOP's 'Putin wing' balks at supplying weapons to Ukraine."

So, you are a supporter of Putin if you think it is a bad idea to give the White House blanket permission to send "any weapon, weapons system, munition, aircraft, vessel, boat, or other implement of war" to Ukraine while surrendering our rights to repayment.

We are sending so many weapons to Ukraine that we are depleting our own stockpiles, and we aren't just sending bullets and rifles. Now, we are sending howitzers that can fire up to 15 miles. This means weapons we supply and train Ukrainians to use could potentially strike Russian territory.

These weapons aren't just ending up in the hands of the Ukrainian military, either. One official said weapons drop "into a big black hole."

Many of these are ending up in the hands of the Azov Battalion. Forty House Democrats called them a neo-Nazi foreign terrorist organization just 3 years ago. Now that they are killing Russians, are these avowed ethnonationalists apparently not so bad?

Democrats go on a daily snipe hunt for white supremacy here in America, yet they are fine giving rockets to actual white supremacists in Ukraine.

Taking the position that we arm anyone to the teeth who will shoot at Russians has actually not always worked for America. It is Javelins to neo-Nazis today; Stinger missiles to the mujahideen in Afghanistan yesterday.

In Syria—another conflict that Washington had consensus on—we supplied jihadist terrorists in their fight against Assad. Assad, like Putin, is an evil man, but does that mean the American taxpayer must arm his enemies without any further inquiry? I don't think so, and I would imagine most Americans don't think so. But that is why we never have real debate on these issues.

The swamp would rather talk about saving democracy than our actual dangerous reality. If we are at war, like Congressman MOULTON says, then why not vote on an Authorization for Use of Military Force, or are we just going to operate in Ukraine like we have in Yemen and throughout the world? Forever, undeclared wars.

I suspect many in this body won't want a vote or a debate because regime change in Russia is their actual objective, not defending Ukraine. To achieve this goal, they are willing to send billions to Kyiv that will line the pockets of corrupt officials, just like we did in Afghanistan. We are sleepwalking into a war, and the American people are left in the dark.

□ 1100

ACCESSING ABORTION CARE WITH-  
OUT GOVERNMENT INTER-  
FERENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Nevada (Mrs. LEE) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. LEE of Nevada. Madam Speaker, I rise today as women across this country face the most devastating blow to our rights and our freedom in decades.

For nearly 50 years, Roe v. Wade has been the law of the land, but the Supreme Court is poised to strike down

Roe, and 28 states are ready to strip away everyone's right to access abortion care without government interference.

I grew up Catholic. I have a deep understanding of the moral and personal dilemma that the decision to have an abortion can present. But that decision should be a woman's, not the government's. Five Justices should not be able to overrule our will, our rights, and our healthcare decisions.

The House passed legislation to protect everyone's access to abortion care, and the Senate must do the same. In 1990, in fact, Nevadans came together and voted by a 2-to-1 margin to protect a woman's right to choose.

But Washington Republicans don't care. If they take the majority, they will ban abortion nationwide and overrule our State's law. They are out of touch, out of line, and out to take control of women.

This hyperpartisan Supreme Court won't stop at clawing back rights from women. Our Nation's highest court is opening the doors to rip apart individual rights and liberties across the board. Marriage equality, privacy rights, access to contraception, and more, it is all on the line. These are the stakes, and that is why we cannot back down.

About 70 percent of the American public supports a woman's right to access abortion care, and we must make our voices heard. We must call out the partisan extremists on the right who are hiding in the wake of this immensely unpopular decision.

The past week in the news has been absolutely devastating, but this is a fight worth fighting. I am not giving up on this country, I am not giving up on democracy, and I am certainly not giving up on a woman's right to make her own healthcare decisions.

HONORING CHRISTIAN J. KOCH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. JACOBS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JACOBS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of my legislation to designate the post office in Honeoye Falls the CW4 Christian J. Koch Memorial Post Office.

Christian was an American hero who passed away tragically in January of 2021 during a training mission with the National Guard when his Black Hawk helicopter crashed.

Christian joined the U.S. Army shortly following 9/11 as an infantryman and became a helicopter pilot in 2008. He was a veteran of both wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, where he flew MEDEVAC missions and saved countless lives. In the wake of Hurricane Florence in 2018, Christian and his unit rescued 87 people, along with numerous cats and dogs.

In his civilian life, Christian served as a helicopter pilot for the New York State Police. Shortly before he passed, Christian was honored by the Red Cross