

honor of keeping that legacy for those 40 heroes alive.

National Park Service Director Steve Clark has done an incredible job to make the memorial a place of remembrance, and I look forward to continuing to work with him as he oversees the September 11th National Memorial Trail.

The Flight 93 National Memorial is a fitting tribute to the passengers and crew who died on that September morning with the knowledge that their deaths would ultimately save others' lives.

National Park Service Director Steve Clark and his entire team at the Flight 93 National Memorial have done an incredible job to maintain and preserve this site.

On behalf of the individuals from Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I say thank you for that service. I say thank you for preserving the memories of all those fallen heroes from the Flight 93 National Memorial.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 3285. An act to amend gendered terms in Federal law relating to the President and the President's spouse.

H.R. 5961. An act to make revisions in title 5, United States Code, as necessary to keep the title current, and to make technical amendments to improve the United States Code.

H.R. 7299. An act to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to obtain an independent cybersecurity assessment of information systems of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7335. An act to improve coordination between the Veterans Health Administration and the Veterans Benefits Administration with respect to claims for compensation arising from military sexual trauma, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 7939. An act to make permanent certain educational assistance benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in the case of changes to courses of education by reason of emergency situations, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1294. An act to authorize the imposition of sanctions with respect to foreign persons that have engaged in significant theft of trade secrets of United States persons, and for other purposes.

S. 1324. An act to establish a Civilian Cyber Security Reserve as a pilot project to address the cyber security needs of the United States with respect to national security, and for other purposes.

S. 1942. An act to standardize the designation of National Heritage Areas, and for other purposes.

S. 3519. An act to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Butterfield Overland National Historic Trail, and for other purposes.

S. 3773. An act to authorize leases of up to 99 years for land held in trust for the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation.

S. 3946. An act to reauthorize the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2017, and for other purposes.

S. 3949. An act to reauthorize the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, and for other purposes.

S. 4120. An act to maximize discovery, and accelerate development and availability, of promising childhood cancer treatments, and for other purposes.

S. 4240. An act to amend section 2441 of title 18, United States Code, to broaden the scope of individuals subject to prosecution for war crimes.

S. 4859. An act to reauthorize the Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant Program Authorization Act of 2018, and for other purposes.

S. 5323. An act to amend title VI of the Social Security Act to allow States and local governments to use coronavirus relief funds provided under the American Rescue Plan Act for infrastructure projects, improve the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund, provide Tribal governments with more time to use Coronavirus Relief Fund payments, and for other purposes.

S. 5328. An act to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to extend terminal lakes assistance.

S. 5329. An act to amend the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act to improve the program, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 117-81, the Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, appoints the following individual to serve as a member of the National Security Commission on Emerging Biotechnology:

Dr. Michelle Roza of Pennsylvania.

#### FAREWELL TO CONGRESS

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

Ms. BOURDEAUX. Madam Speaker, I rise today with gratitude to bid this body farewell.

I thank my family, my friends, my supporters, and the wonderful people of Georgia's Seventh Congressional District for the honor of serving as your Representative in Congress.

While there are many things we accomplished, the most important occurred in my first week in office. On January 3, as I was on the floor to be sworn in, I looked at my phone and saw a notification that President Trump had tried to illegally pressure Georgia's secretary of state into finding 11,780 more votes to change the results of the election.

A few days later, on January 6, as I was in my office preparing remarks to defend Georgia's electoral count, I was told to lock down and to shelter in place. There I sat for hours and hours with my sister and a couple of staff as we followed on TV and through text threads the mob attacking the Capitol and the narrow escapes of many of my colleagues.

I was one of the first of my colleagues to call for impeaching President Trump because there was never any doubt in my mind that he had incited that crowd to march on the Capitol to try to block the vote to certify the election and to keep himself in power.

That night, I walked past the broken glass through the eerie, empty halls to certify the election of Joe Biden as the next President of the United States.

At some point during these events, majority leader STENY HOYER turned to me and said: "I bet this wasn't what you expected when you ran for Congress." I told him that actually I ran for Congress precisely so that I could be standing at this place at this time to take this vote to certify the election and to defend our democracy.

I know that many of the people who supported me in the 4-year effort to flip Georgia's Seventh Congressional District and to deliver Georgia for the Democrats worked so hard and sacrificed so much in large part because they, too, saw the danger and worried that President Trump would stop at nothing to achieve and retain power. While there were many other important issues at stake, fundamentally, we saw our efforts as a rescue mission for our country.

I know that many other democratic frontliners saw their efforts the same way. I know that some of my Republican colleagues who took brave votes at great political risk shared our concerns.

So for those who are cynical about our politics, who believe that it is all about corruption, money, and power—and, yes, there is a lot of that—please know that many people of integrity, courage, and talent in both parties and in many different roles worked hard for years to be at the right place at the right time in this particular moment in our country's history so that they could hold the line to stop the forces of chaos and autocracy and renew our democracy for one more turn of the wheel.

I want to recognize the sacrifice of my family and thank my husband, Jeff, and my son, Nathan, who encouraged me all along the way. I want to recognize my sister, Margaret Bourdeaux, who threw herself into helping me day in and day out, and my aunt and uncle, Margaret and Howard Arbuckle, who stood by me when both my parents died in 2017 and told me I could not quit working for change, it was too important.

I thank my many supporters whose persistent acts of courage and sacrifice allowed me to have this brief but very important time in Congress.

While the preservation of our democracy was always top of mind, we accomplished quite a lot on other fronts, including the American Rescue Plan, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the CHIPS Act, and the Inflation Reduction Act.

Also critical to the Seventh District was the PPP Extension Act and almost

\$18 million in community funding projects that will allow the restoration and preservation of our community's Black history, that will support critical early childhood education programs, that will promote small businesses and innovation and economic development and infrastructure, and that will support a vast array of much-needed mental health and other social service programs in our rapidly growing community.

To my staff, all that we have accomplished would not have been possible without you. Thank you for your hard work and dedication, and I look forward to seeing what you do next.

To the residents of Georgia's Seventh District, thank you again for the honor of representing our community in Congress.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF LESLEE KATHRYN BUHLER ALEXANDER

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

Mr. KUSTOFF. Madam Speaker, many in the Chamber know our friend Senator Lamar Alexander, but many of you may not know that earlier this year he lost his wife of 53 years, Leslee Kathryn Buhler Alexander, better known to all of us as "Honey."

Honey was a household name in Tennessee, not for being the first lady of Tennessee or the wife of a United States Senator, but for being the voice of so many across the State.

Honey grew up in Texas. She graduated high school in Austin in 1963 and received her college degree from Smith College in 1967. Honey later joined the Washington, D.C., staff of United States Senator John G. Tower.

Now, that summer, during a softball game between Senator Tower's staff and the staff of Senator Howard Baker, Jr., Honey met a young Baker staffer, Lamar Alexander. Honey and Lamar dated for about 18 months and married in 1969.

When Honey, Lamar, and their 11-month-old son, Drew, moved to Nashville in 1970, Honey began to focus on the health and well-being of families and children. She said: "Strong families make strong children."

Later, as Tennessee's first lady, Honey led the statewide Healthy Children Initiative with the goal of providing prenatal healthcare for every child. Honey dedicated her life to the well-being of our next generation.

Honey Alexander cofounded Leadership Nashville, served Family & Children's Service as president of its board and chaired multiple events, and additionally served on the boards of the Adventure Science Center, Vanderbilt Kennedy Center, the Junior League of Nashville, the Dede Wallace Center, and the Hermitage.

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Honey and Lamar had three more children: Leslee, Kathryn, and Will.

Through it all, Honey was a steadfast and committed partner during her husband's honorable career in public service.

Honey campaigned during Lamar's six races for Governor and United States Senator, served 8 years as the first lady of Tennessee, moved to Knoxville when Lamar was the president of the University of Tennessee, and then moved to Washington when Lamar was the United States Education Secretary and finally U.S. Senator. When Lamar was campaigning for President, Honey traveled on her own to over 80 different Iowa communities.

During the 1996 Presidential campaign in New Hampshire, Honey was interviewed on the Larry King Show on CNN. Larry King asked Honey this question: Do you really want to be the First Lady and live in the White House?

Honey answered in her own way, very succinctly with one word: "No."

That was Honey. It was clear to all of us that Honey was happiest at home with her family. I think that Honey summed it up well when she wrote: "The most important facets of my life remain the same: supporting Lamar; mothering the children; helping others; and nurturing good physical, spiritual, emotional, and intellectual health in me and those closest to me."

When Nashville's Family and Children's Service named its new home the Honey Alexander Center, the organization said, "Honey Alexander has dedicated her life to the service of others." In my opinion, that really is the most suitable statement.

As a child, Honey's daughter Leslee wrote in a school essay: "My mother is the lioness who keeps the family in hand and allows us to live and grow."

We should all be so lucky to have a Honey Alexander in our lives.

As we grieve the loss of one of our favorite first ladies, we know that Tennessee is a better place to live and raise a family because of the work of this wonderful wife, mother, and friend.

From Roberta and me to Lamar, Leslee, Kathryn, and Will: We know your hearts are heavy this holiday season, but we want to say thank you. Thank you for allowing your wife and your mother to be a lioness for us all.

#### SOVEREIGN RIGHTS OF THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN PEOPLE

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

Mr. KAHELE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak on a critical issue for indigenous people of the United States, specifically Native Hawaiians.

Yesterday, in this august body, I introduced H.R. 9614 to amend the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920, legislation critical to the preservation, protection, and restoration of the sovereign rights of the Native Hawaiian people.

Madam Speaker, 129 years ago, on January 17, 1893, 13 White men with the support of U.S. troops of the USS *Boston* illegally overthrew the Kingdom of Hawaii. In the years that would follow, the kingdom's beloved monarch, Queen Liliuokalani, was imprisoned; millions of acres of sovereign royal lands were stolen; *olelo* Hawaii, the Hawaiian language, was prohibited to be taught or spoken in public schools; the United States illegally annexed Hawaii via a simple majority joint resolution after failing to gain treaty ratification in the United States Senate; and by 1920, Native Hawaiians—decimated by Western diseases, the loss of their land, culture, and identity—were on the brink of extinction.

Realizing the plight of his people, Hawaii's second Native Hawaiian and territorial Delegate to the Congress, Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalanianaʻole, 102 years ago, authored one of the most important pieces of Federal legislation for Hawaiians, the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920.

The act would set aside 203,000 acres to restore land and dignity to Native Hawaiians of 1/32 blood quantum, giving them leasing opportunities for homesteading, farming, ranching, and mercantile purposes.

However, Delegate Kuhio ran into fierce opposition and was forced to compromise with Western powerful sugar and ranching business interests by accepting a blood quantum requirement of 50 percent to qualify for a lease. This requirement would serve as a poison pill in the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act dividing Native Hawaiians—a divide that remains to this day.

Inadequately funded and managed by the United States from 1921 to 1959, the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act and its day-to-day management was punted to the new State of Hawaii as a condition and requirement of statehood in 1959.

Realizing that Native Hawaiians were being quickly displaced from their land due to interracial marriages, the State of Hawaii and the United States lowered the blood quantum requirement for qualified beneficiary successors to 25 percent.

Madam Speaker, 100 years later, due to interracial marriages and blended families, many descendants of beneficiaries do not meet the 25 percent requirement for successorship.

In addition, the failure of both the State of Hawaii and the United States to meet its fiduciary, execution, management, and oversight obligations to the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act has resulted in less than 10,000 Native Hawaiians being awarded a lease while an applicant wait list of almost 29,000 exists to this day.

As the applicant wait list grows, the median average age of an applicant grows, creating a sense of urgency as thousands have died on the wait list, and thousands more will die on the wait list, never fulfilling the true vision of Prince Kuhio to Aina