



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 118th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 170

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2024

No. 150

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LOPEZ).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 25, 2024.

I hereby appoint the Honorable GREG LOPEZ to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, 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. 6513. An act to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to confirm the requirement that States allow access to designated congressional election observers to observe the election administration procedures in congressional elections.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 9, 2024, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

CELEBRATING RICHARD KEEP, JR.'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, one of the most joyous things we do in Congress is to speak about people in our district.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a remarkable milestone for a fellow Iowan and a fellow veteran.

Richard Keep, Jr., is about to turn 100 years old on September 28, 2024. Richard's life is a shining example of bravery and dedication. As a World War II Army veteran, he served in the 12th Armored Division and the 92nd Reconnaissance Squadron from 1943 to 1945 in Germany.

His courage during a crucial time in our history is an inspiration to us all. Richard fought for the freedoms we enjoy today, demonstrating great strength and commitment to his fellow soldiers and our country, and he did this starting at age 19.

Richard's story doesn't end there. He met his wife, Carol, while they were students at Delta High School. They got married about 5 months before he was deployed to Germany. They graduated together in 1942, married in 1943 before deployment, and have now shared an incredible 81 years of marriage together. They are about to celebrate their 100th birthday together, as well as their 81st anniversary.

Their family includes two children, Kelli and Karen, four grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren, all influenced by Richard and Carol's strong family values and love for one another.

As we honor Richard on his special occasion, his 100th birthday, let us celebrate his incredible life as a soldier and, on their 81st wedding anniversary, his life as a family man.

Here is to Richard, a true American hero and a proud Iowan.

LEWISTON SHOOTING ANNIVERSARY

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

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, on October 25, 2023, America's gun violence nightmare became a living hell for the people of Lewiston, Maine, and everyone who calls our State home.

At 6:54 p.m., a man carrying a semi-automatic rifle walked into a bowling alley and fired 18 rounds, taking the lives of eight patrons in 45 seconds, including a 14-year-old boy.

The shooter then drove to a nearby restaurant, where he opened fire again, killing 10 more innocent civilians in 78 seconds, including 4 members of Maine's deaf community who were gathered at the restaurant for a cornhole tournament.

It was Maine's worst mass shooting ever and the tenth deadliest in American history. The total time the gun was operating was 2 minutes. That is 2 minutes of 1 man pulling a single deadly trigger, killing 18 human beings, 18 of our neighbors.

This shouldn't be allowed to happen, not by anyone, not anywhere, not ever again.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering the victims of this horrifying tragedy and in holding in our hearts the people of Lewiston, a city that so beautifully embodies the resilience and dynamism of our great State. I also ask my colleagues to commit to the kind of sensible gun-control measures supported by 80 percent of Mainers and supported by a vast majority of Americans.

Please never forget, and never again.

NEW YORK CLIMATE WEEK

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, maybe my colleagues have heard of New York Fashion Week, which was at the beginning of this month, but this week is New York Climate Week, giving us an opportunity to spur climate action.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

H5751

The fashion industry is a massive, \$2.5 trillion global industry and an economic driver with a presence in every State. We cannot ignore the wide-ranging impacts of the fashion industry. Clothing production is surging, textile waste is rising, and workers' wages and conditions are worsening.

Fashion, and particularly fast fashion, is a climate issue. The apparel industry is responsible for about 4 percent of the world's greenhouse gas emissions and 4 percent of the solid waste in the United States alone.

In 2021, the World Economic Forum identified the fashion industry and its supply chain as the world's third largest polluter.

In June, my colleagues and I took an important step by launching the first-ever Congressional Slow Fashion Caucus. We are working to educate Members and the public about the negative impacts of the fashion industry and to develop policies to support a more sustainable industry.

There are important actions we can all take as individuals. We can buy less clothing and get more use out of our clothing by patching holes or buying secondhand, but there is a critical need for new policies to encourage brands to design better clothing and take responsibility for the end of life of their products.

Other countries and States are already starting this work. We cannot only make the planet healthier, but we can use these opportunities to create jobs and support communities and American businesses.

The time for action is now. I invite my colleagues to join me in the Slow Fashion Caucus and raising awareness and making an impact for the future of our planet.

IN RECOGNITION OF KENTUCKY SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION SHERIFF OF THE YEAR RECIPIENT CHRIS QUIRE

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

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sheriff Chris Quire of Franklin County for being named the Kentucky Sheriffs' Association Sheriff of the Year in recognition of his 25 years of dedicated service in law enforcement.

Sheriff Quire has risen through the ranks from parking citation officer to captain before being elected sheriff in 2018.

His time as sheriff has been defined by ensuring the safety of the people of Franklin County. Under his leadership, the Franklin County Sheriff's Office was able to fully staff each school in the county with a school resource officer.

Sheriff Quire has earned the respect and support of Franklin County due to his ability to foster strong relationships and his commitment to the well-being of the community. Sheriff Quire's many years of service to Franklin County make him the perfect choice for Kentucky's Sheriff of the Year.

I am confident that Sheriff Quire will continue to serve as an exemplary role model for law enforcement officers all across the First Congressional District and the entire Commonwealth of Kentucky.

NATIONAL BOURBON HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, this is National Bourbon Heritage Month. Kentucky-01 is home to the world's finest bourbon industry, including six distilleries, such as Maker's Mark, Buffalo Trace, Jim Beam, Bulleit, Jefferson's, Yellowstone, and many more of the world's finest bourbons.

The Kentucky bourbon industry is a huge economic driver for my congressional district. In addition to hundreds of good-paying jobs and millions of dollars in tax revenue, it is a huge market for many of my farmers who grow corn and wheat.

The Kentucky Bourbon Trail is the State of Kentucky's single largest tourist destination.

Let's all celebrate the Kentucky Bourbon Heritage Month and remember the huge economic impact it has, not just on Kentucky's First Congressional District, but on the whole Commonwealth of Kentucky.

CONGRATULATING DEBRA HEMBREE LAMBERT ON HER ELECTION TO KENTUCKY SUPREME COURT CHIEF JUSTICE

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Debra Lambert on being elected the first female chief justice of the Kentucky Supreme Court.

She has served as a judge for 17 years, including 6 years on the Kentucky Supreme Court. I have had the privilege of getting to know Justice Lambert very well over the years. I have always admired her commitment to ensuring every person in Kentucky receives the impartial justice they deserve.

During her time on Kentucky's Supreme Court, Justice Lambert has headed the Kentucky Judicial Commission on Mental Health, which works to address Kentuckians' mental health needs through improvements to the judicial system.

Justice Lambert serves many counties in the First Congressional District, and they are served well due to her hard work and dedication on our State's highest court.

I congratulate Justice Lambert on her election to this prestigious position. I am confident Kentucky will continue to greatly benefit from her leadership.

RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF MS. BRENDA PHILLIPS-HONG AND HER SISTAH STRUT WALK

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STAUBER). The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Alabama (Ms. SEWELL) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the exemplary and extraordinary work of Ms. Brenda Phillips-Hong, the founder of Brenda's Brown Bosom Buddies in Birmingham, Alabama, ahead of her annual Sistah Strut Walk to fight breast cancer.

A survivor herself, Ms. Brenda's organization is dedicated to supporting,

educating, and advocating for early detection of breast cancer for minority, low-income, and underserved women and men. Not only does it provide a support system for patients, but her organization also helps to connect them to transportation to and from treatments.

Ms. Brenda's work has changed countless lives in Birmingham and in Jefferson County, particularly for Black women, who are 40 percent more likely to die from breast cancer than White women. We are so grateful that she has decided to turn her pain into purpose and use her own story to make a difference in the lives of so many.

As we prepare to observe Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October, let us remember that early detection is our best protection.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the amazing work of breast cancer survivor and community leader, Ms. Brenda Phillips-Hong. May this year's Sistah Strut Walk be the best one ever.

□ 1015

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL HAZING PREVENTION WEEK

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize National Hazing Prevention Week.

For far too long, hazing has been a dangerous, unacceptable issue that has plagued college campuses nationwide.

Hazing is often masked as a tradition or necessary step to joining many student organizations, but let me be clear: Hazing isn't harmless, fun, or a rite of passage. It is a serious issue that puts the physical, emotional, and psychological well-being of students at risk.

Hazing does not build genuine connections out of camaraderie or mutual respect. It creates a power dynamic based on fear. No student should ever be forced to endure demeaning or dangerous acts to feel accepted or to prove their loyalty to others.

It is tragic that these abhorrent acts still occur on campuses across our country. We all play a role in holding clubs, organizations, sports teams, individuals, and campuses to a higher standard when it comes to the well-being of students, which is why I have long advocated for student safety on campuses during my time in Congress.

In 2019, I introduced the END ALL Hazing Act to increase campuswide transparency and accountability for all student organizations.

Earlier this month, I led the effort to advance the Stop Campus Hazing Act through the House Committee on Education and the Workforce alongside several of my colleagues.

Hazing is a serious threat to life and safety on campuses, but obtaining facts about hazing can be somewhat challenging. Under current Federal law, there are no national reporting requirements, and there is no clear definition of hazing.

The Stop Campus Hazing Act, which includes provisions from my END ALL Hazing Act, would require institutions