

City of Corona, but he also encouraged the community to continue to thrive and grow as a leader in Southern California. Numerous Corona City Council members have extensively commended Brad for accomplishing so much during his time as City Manager, most especially because he is such an exceptional person to work with.

In light of all Brad Robbins has done for the community of Corona, I wish him the best as he embarks on his retirement. Brad's tireless passion for the community has contributed immensely to the betterment of Corona, California. I am proud to call Brad a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for his service and salute him as he ends his time as City Manager for the City of Corona.

HONORING KENNETH J. KNUCKLES

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise during this month, dedicated to the celebration of African-Americans who have made great contributions to our nation, to pay tribute to Mr. Kenneth J. Knuckles. I stand before you today to honor Mr. Kenneth J. Knuckles for his many years of compassionate public service and tireless work to improve the lives of our community residents.

Since January of 2003, Mr. Knuckles has served as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Upper Manhattan Empowerment Zone Development Corporation (UMEZ), which is the largest of the group of nine original empowerment zones, when counting designated areas in The Bronx. The initial federal investment of \$100 million into UMEZ was matched by both the New York State and New York City governments, creating the largest capitalized empowerment zone in the United States. With the mission to reinvigorate distressed communities by utilizing tax incentives and public financing to attract private investment, UMEZ has done that and more. Since 1996, UMEZ has invested more than \$230 million in the economy of Upper Manhattan, \$140 million of which has occurred under Mr. Knuckles' leadership, leveraged over \$1 billion in private capital, and created nearly 9,000 jobs. Kenneth Knuckles has led UMEZ through resounding success over the course of the last decade, and it is his deep understanding for the critical need for true economic empowerment and invigoration that makes him such an outstanding leader.

Mr. Knuckles is a prominent business and civic leader from The Bronx who has distinguished himself over the past two decades as an attorney, and has pursued an extraordinary career as a public servant. The list of his positions is long and distinguished. From 1987 to 1990 Mr. Knuckles served as Deputy Borough President of The Bronx, from 1990 to 1993 he served as Commissioner of the New York City Department of General Services, he once served as Assistant Housing Commissioner, and today he sits as a member of the New York City Planning Commission.

Mr. Kenneth Knuckles is a Bronx native who has dedicated himself to fostering the economic and civic revitalization of families and

individuals throughout New York. There are countless government agencies, business owners, and families who have benefitted from Mr. Knuckles' extensive commitment to ensuring that economic vitality and equality are widespread ideals that are transformed into realities. Through his countless achievements and truly selfless service, I am proud to call Mr. Kenneth Knuckles a fellow public servant, and look forward to the great work he will continue to do for the individuals of our community.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Mr. Knuckles for his consistently remarkable dedication to public service and longstanding commitment to improving the lives of New York's residents.

REINTRODUCING THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S RIGHTS HISTORY PROJECT ACT

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to reauthorize the National Women's Rights History Project Act, along with my upstate New York colleagues Representatives RICHARD HANNA, PAUL TONKO, JOHN KATKO and TOM REED. I originally worked with then-Senator Hillary Clinton to pass this bill into law in 2009, but it has not received appropriations since that time. The authorization for the project has expired, and it is vital that Congress pass this reauthorization and ensure that the women who shaped our nation's history and fought for every woman's rights are remembered and honored for generations to come.

The National Women's Rights History Project will establish an auto route linking sites significant to the struggle for women's suffrage, known as the Votes for Women Trail. It will also add to the National Register of "Places Where Women Made History," a variety of historic sites that were home to pivotal moments in our nation's struggle for gender equality. Finally, this Project will establish a public-private partnership network to offer financial and technical assistance for educational programs about the history of the fight for women's rights.

It is fitting that we reintroduce this bill during March, which is Women's History Month. I am especially proud that it was in Rochester, New York where Susan B. Anthony fought so hard for the rights that women throughout this country rely on today. Among her many efforts, Susan B. Anthony established the Equal Rights Association to refute ideas that women were inferior to men and to fight for women's right to vote. She also fought to tear down the walls holding women back from higher education.

In 1848, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, and Mary Ann M'Clintock convened the first women's rights convention at Wesleyan Chapel in Seneca Falls, New York. This event marked the beginning of a 72-year struggle for women's suffrage. During the convention, 68 women and 32 men signed the Declaration of Sentiments, which set out radical notions such as women's freedom to own property, receive an education and earn fair wages.

In 1880, a woman launched a brave petition to be the first female student at the University of Rochester. For almost twenty years, the petition was flatly denied—until 1898, when the University said that women would be allowed if they raised \$100,000 for the school. In today's terms, that is equal to \$2 million. By June of 1900 a group of women had managed to secure \$40,000, and the University decided that women would be allowed to enroll if they could raise another \$10,000 by September. Scrambling to reach the new goal, the women were \$8,000 short a day before the deadline. With hours remaining, Susan B. Anthony stepped forward and raised \$6,000 from friends and family before pledging her own life insurance policy to raise the final \$2,000 and throw open the doors of higher education in Rochester. Now, more than 100 years later, the University of Rochester is home to the Susan B. Anthony Institute for Gender and Women's Studies—one of the pre-eminent educational institutions in the world.

These are the stories of incredible courage, dedication, and unyielding belief in equality that the National Women's Rights History Project is designed to honor. The fight for women's rights and equality still continues today. It was just 93 years ago that women were finally granted the right to vote. The struggle for women's suffrage was never easy and it is vital that we honor the sacrifices and commitment of those who blazed the trail that led us here today, where a record number of women serve in the 114th Congress.

Reauthorizing the National Women's Rights History Project Act will ensure that this important civil rights story is celebrated for generations to come. I urge my colleagues to support this bill and reauthorize the National Women's Rights History Project.

HONORING THE STEVENSON HIGH SCHOOL MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. ROBERT J. DOLD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the Stevenson High School men's basketball team for their Illinois state championship title, becoming the first Lake County high school to win a Class 4A state championship title in men's basketball.

I want to personally recognize the players on the team: Connor Cashaw, Cameron Green, Justin Smith, Parker Nichols, Joshua McMullen, Ryan Rosenbaum, Matt Johnson, Ryuji Aoki, Jalen Brunson, Radek Gralak, Benjamin Rodheim, Jordan Newman, Jordan Hodes, Raymond Sullivan, Kevin Yang, and Nick Dillon.

I also want to recognize Head coach Pat Ambrose; Assistant Coach John Taylor; Volunteer Coaches Kevin Stineman and Paul Swan; and Managers Deborah Blount, Jack Greeley, Nathan Halterman and Matthew Solway.

This accomplishment speaks volumes to the players' dedication, hard work, and perseverance. Stevenson High School's win, however, is not just a victory for the players and the school; it is a victory for our entire community.