

In Texas, we know this from personal experience.

On the same day that Shelby County v. Holder was decided officials in Texas announced they would immediately implement its Photo ID law, and other election laws, policies, and practices that could never pass muster under the Section 5 preclearance regime.

This stands in contrast to President Lyndon Johnson, who understood that the right to vote is:

The most powerful instrument ever devised by man for breaking down injustice and destroying the terrible walls which imprison men because they are different from other men.

Because Barbara Jordan understood the importance of protecting the right to vote, she authored the 1975 amendment that became Section Sections 4(f)(3) and 4(f)(4) of the Voting Rights Act, which extended to language minorities the protections of Section 4(a) and Section 5, which also had the effect of subjecting Texas to the pre-clearance provisions of Section 5.

I am pleased that the inaugural recipient of the award given in Barbara Jordan's name also understands, as she made clear in her acceptance remarks in which she called for reforms to make it easier, not harder, for Americans to exercise the franchise, including automatic, universal registration of voters once they turn 18; and a national standard of not fewer than 20 days of early in-person voting in every state, including opportunities for week-end and evenings.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Texas Southern University, and the Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs and Thurgood Marshall School of Law for honoring the memory of one of a great American by establishing the Barbara Jordan Gold Medallion and I congratulate the 2015 recipient of this prestigious award, the Honorable Hillary Clinton.

I look forward to congratulating future recipients of the Barbara Jordan Gold Medallion in the years to come.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 23, 2015*

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 375, due to unforeseen circumstances I was unable to vote on H.R. 160, the Protect Medical Innovation Act.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

#### HONORING THE CHURCH OF THE LIVING GOD

### HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 23, 2015*

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Church of the Living God in Winchester, Kentucky. This church is celebrating their twenty-fifth anniversary in ministry on July 26th. Led by Pastors Thomas and Lela Hall and Mike and Angela Smith, this church

is an important part of the Clark County community. Their ministry touches the lives of their members, others in the community, and people all throughout the world by the service and mission work that they carry out. I congratulate the Church of the Living God on their twenty five years serving God and impacting the region through the Lord Jesus Christ and I wish them a long and productive future in ministry.

#### TRIBUTE TO SHENANDOAH FLORAL

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 23, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Shenandoah Floral of Shenandoah, Iowa. For over 90 years, Shenandoah Floral has been a staple in the Shenandoah community. According to local history, the florist shop was first recorded in the local phonebook in 1925. In 2006, Shenandoah Floral was purchased by current owner Nancy Maher. Nancy purchased the shop when it was in danger of closing and has turned the business into a success story.

Nancy had no prior experience running a floral shop, so the assistance of the existing staff helped in making Shenandoah Floral successful. Nancy contributes the success of the floral shop to her employees. Nancy wanted to keep the floral shop in operation in order to keep existing jobs in Shenandoah. She stated that, "If the doors had closed, they'd have just been out of a job." Nancy has been committed to preserving Shenandoah's downtown area and keeping the downtown business district viable.

Since assuming ownership of the floral shop, Nancy has seen many changes in the operation of the business, such as the streamlining of operations by using advanced technology and computers. She remembers handwriting orders. Nancy takes pride in the services that the floral shop provides. The shop receives orders from around the world, including from our men and women in the military who wish to send flowers to family members. The business cherishes the many friends and customers they have served for the past 90 years.

I commend Shenandoah Floral and their staff for their 90 years of dedicated service to Shenandoah and southwest Iowa. I urge my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Shenandoah Floral for their many achievements in the florist industry. I wish them and all of their employees best wishes moving forward.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF JACK LUND'S RETIREMENT AFTER 40 YEARS OF LEADERSHIP IN THE YMCA

### HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 23, 2015*

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Jack Lund and his retirement after forty years of leadership and service in the YMCA.

Jack currently serves as President and Chief Executive Officer of the YMCA of Greater New York, the largest YMCA in the United States. As head of New York City's largest private youth-serving organization, Jack is dedicated to strengthening the foundations of communities in New York City through programs that nurture the potential of children and youth, improve the health and well being of individuals and communities and address some of New York City's most challenging social problems.

Jack has pioneered programs in education, civic engagement and immigrant services. Most recently, the Y has launched signature programs addressing the academic achievement gap for children living in poverty, the epidemic of youth obesity and disconnected young people—who have dropped out of school and are not working.

Jack has spent 40 years working for various YMCAs, starting his service in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Prior to joining the YMCA of Greater New York, he served as president and CEO of the YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee from 1995 through 2004.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Mr. Jack Lund on this remarkable occasion. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing him a wonderful retirement and many years of happiness.

#### REMOVAL OF UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES FROM IRAQ AND SYRIA

SPEECH OF

### HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 17, 2015*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 55, which requires the President to withdraw our troops deployed in Iraq and Syria before the end of the year unless Congress passes an Authorization for Use of Military Force (AUMF) to combat ISIL.

I do want to stress that I support many aspects of the military operations the President is currently conducting against ISIL, including the use of American air power against ISIL targets and in support of Iraqi and Kurdish forces, as well as the deployment of limited numbers of American troops to help train and equip those forces. However, it has now been ten months since the President sent troops into Iraq and Syria and four months since the President sent Congress a proposed AUMF to combat ISIL. While I have serious concerns with that proposed draft, we owe it to our troops and the American people to at the very least have a debate in Congress on our military engagement in Iraq and Syria.

My primary concern is that the President continues to rely on the 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force Against and Al-Qaeda and associated forces and the 2002 Authorization for Use of Military Force against Iraq as justification to take military action against ISIL. While he has repeatedly stated that he will not deploy ground troops in a combat role in either Syria or Iraq, these existing authorities leave that door open. We need to sunset both the 2001 AUMF and 2002 AUMF and pass a narrowly tailored AUMF to combat ISIL that provides the authority necessary to degrade