

HONORING THE LIFE OF ROSA PARKS

(Ms. HAHN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, 60 years ago today Rosa Parks was arrested for refusing to give up her bus seat to a White man. Her simple act of defiance and her quiet dignity in the face of daily injustice grabbed the attention of activists and launched the civil rights movement.

In 2013, we unveiled a statue of Rosa Parks that stands just outside these doors in the U.S. Capitol Statuary Hall. This year I took my 11-year-old granddaughter to Rosa Parks Museum in Montgomery, Alabama, so that the next generation of young Americans can understand the role that she played in shaping the history of our country.

I actually got the great honor of meeting Rosa Parks at an event once that my father held at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Hospital in Watts. What thrill it was to hold her hand as the audience sang "We Shall Overcome."

It has been 60 years, but, unfortunately, we know that the discrimination Rosa Parks faced still faces minorities communities in this country today.

On this anniversary, I hope we can look to her example for inspiration in the ongoing struggle for justice for every American.

HONORING MIAMI DADE COLLEGE WOLFSON CAMPUS PRESIDENT DR. JOSE A. VICENTE

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Jose A. Vicente, who is retiring from his post as president of Wolfson Campus of Miami Dade College, where each year 27,000 students receive a high-quality education in the heart of downtown Miami.

Dr. Vicente's retirement marks the end of an amazing 42-year career at my alma mater, Miami Dade College. Dr. Vicente's commitment to education is evident not only from his varied teaching and administrative roles at Miami Dade College, but also through his active involvement as a board member in national education groups, including the American Association of Community Colleges and the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, known as HACU.

Congratulations to Dr. Jose Vicente on his well-deserved retirement. I thank him for his wonderful legacy of enhanced educational opportunities that will continue to benefit our South Florida community for years to come.

Godspeed, Jose.

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WORLD AIDS DAY

(Ms. LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate World AIDS Day. The theme this year is: The Time to Act is Now.

First, I would like to thank Leader PELOSI for her steadfast commitment to fighting HIV and AIDS and for guaranteeing strong United States leadership in this area.

As the cofounder and cochair along with my good friend from Florida, Congresswoman ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN of the bipartisan Congressional HIV/AIDS Caucus, we have seen the significant progress that we have made in the global fight against HIV.

From PEPFAR and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria, which we were very proud to cosponsor, to the Ryan White CARE Act and the Minority AIDS Initiative, the U.S. has been a global leader in committing the critical resources needed to end this disease.

Thanks to the leadership of people like Congresswoman MAXINE WATERS, former Congresswoman Donna Christensen, and the Congressional Black Caucus, we are turning the tide in providing lifesaving prevention and treatment services to disproportionately affected communities here at home. This has been a bipartisan effort which we must continue because we still have a lot of work to do.

Mr. Speaker, in the United States, southern States are now the epicenter of the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Stigma, discrimination, and lack of education about the disease continue to be significant barriers to care and prevention. The time to act is now.

EPILEPSY AWARENESS MONTH

(Mr. DOLD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to highlight November as Epilepsy Awareness Month. Tragically, across the country today thousands of families dealing with epilepsy and other debilitating seizure disorders have been forced to uproot their families as they travel to States where CBD oil is already legalized.

Especially in children, CBD oil helps reduce the amount and the duration of seizures. But over and over again the government has stood in the way of access to lifesaving care for these children.

Children across the country, like Sophie Weiss, deserve better. Sophie is an inspiring young girl from the Tenth Congressional District in Illinois. She suffers from a severe form of epilepsy and, without CBD oil, suffers upwards of 200 seizures each and every day.

Mr. Speaker, for Sophie and children suffering like her, I helped introduce a

bill to stop the government from standing in the way of this lifesaving relief.

In honor of Epilepsy Awareness Month, I call on my colleagues to join me so we can pass the Charlotte's Web Medical Hemp Act of 2015 and ensure that no family has to endure the loss of a child as they wait for approval of this natural, lifesaving option.

9/11 HEALTH AND COMPENSATION ACT

(Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, let's not play politics with the health and compensation bill for the 9/11 heroes and heroines. There are over 70,000 9/11 first responders and survivors, the veterans of our war on terror. They come from every single State in the Union, and they are waiting to see if Congress will act for their health care.

There is broad bipartisan, bicameral support for a permanent reauthorization. There are 259 House cosponsors, including 67 Republicans. Both Chairman GOODLATTE and Chairman UPTON, along with Ranking Member CONYERS and Ranking Member PALLONE, support this bill and want to pass it.

There are just 7 legislative days left. This is something we all agree on, something that is clearly the right thing to do.

I urge my colleagues, Mr. Speaker, to get this done this year. Let's keep our promise to the 9/11 heroes and heroines, to the first responders, to the victims, and to the survivors. Let's pass this bill this year.

THE PROMISE ACT

(Mr. BILIRAKIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of our true American heroes, our veterans, to highlight important legislation that will help those who need it most. Last month I introduced the PROMISE Act to continue my efforts to promote safety, patient advocacy, and better access to quality care for our veterans.

The PROMISE Act will increase safety for opioid therapy and pain management, encourage more transparency at the VA, encourage more outreach and awareness of the Patient Advocacy Program for veterans, and help provide alternative forms of care to address veterans' health needs.

Our veterans sacrificed so much for our country. It is up to us to provide them with the care they have earned and deserve. We must encourage safe, quality care for those who have fought for our freedoms.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill and help fulfill our promise to our veterans.