

David's wide-ranging career in the law has also been imbued with the ideal of service and making life better for others. He has served as Assistant U.S. Attorney for Colorado and Assistant Public Defender, had two assignments as Special Assistant Attorney General for Colorado, and is now in private practice at his firm, Fogel & Bluestein.

David is also a part-time instructor at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. His commitment to education and his desire to share his experience extends for many years, 16 of which he spent as an instructor at the University of Denver College of Law.

David has been a mentor, not just to his former law students, but to many people across the community. I met David years ago when he was Chair of the Denver Democratic Party, and his wisdom and upbeat disposition inspire me to this day.

I'm among countless Coloradans who, through the years, have been lucky enough to get to know David and to work by his side. We appreciate his compassion, kindness and generosity in all his professional and community roles. His spirit and energy have helped make Denver a city with a welcoming spirit that embraces diversity and justice.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL T. MCCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2017

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, on July 24, 2017, I missed the voting session due to family obligations. If present, I would have voted as follows:

YES—H.R. 3180—Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018

YES—S. 114—A bill to authorize appropriations for the Veterans Choice Program

YES—H.R. 3218—Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act

I intended to vote yes on all of these measures. After World War II, my father—who was a B-17 bombardier navigator in the Army Air Corps—became the first in our family to attend college thanks to the GI Bill. I am ecstatic that the House passed H.R. 3218 to expand this vital program for our Veterans and their families who sacrifice so much.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRENDA L. LAWRENCE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2017

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, on July 24, 2017, I was not able to cast my votes during the series. Had I been present, I would have voted: NO on H.R. 3180—Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018, as amended, NO on S. 114—A bill to authorize appropriations for the Veterans Choice Program, and for other purposes, as amended, and YES on H.R. 3218—Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017, as amended.

COMMEMORATING 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF TRAE DAY IN HOUSTON, TEXAS

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2017

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 10th anniversary of "Trae Day."

Trae Tha Truth, is an American hip hop recording artist from Houston, Texas.

Apart from his solo career, Trae is also known as a member of the underground rap collective Screwed Up Click, as well as one-half of the Southern Hip Hop duo ABN, and one of the founding members of the group Guerilla Maab, alongside fellow rappers Z-Ro and Dougie D.

Trae Tha Truth currently hosts Banned Radio on XXL, on Dash Radio.

Trae Tha Truth's music is inspired by the experiences of the disenfranchised, which is rooted in the inner-cities of America, and is driven by loss, love and loyalty.

Trae Tha Truth's music is powerful and real, his voice is a tractor trailer shoveling gravel that booms, bangs, and thumps.

Trae Day is an annual festival commemorating the actual holiday the City of Houston gave Trae for his role as a civic leader, which made him the first rapper in Texas to be given an official holiday by the city.

Among his civic activities, Trae Tha Truth has founded a nonprofit organization, counseled incarcerated persons, and sponsored at-risk high school students.

Trae Tha Truth is very modest and rarely discusses his accomplishments but what is important to know about him is that he is a rapper who uses his gift to help people.

TRIBUTE TO DR. LEO TWIGGS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2017

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great South Carolinian and personal friend, Dr. Leo Twiggs.

Dr. Twiggs hails from St. Stephen, South Carolina, and currently lives in Orangeburg. His artwork has won him fame and recognition across the state and around the world. Recently, he received the Order of the Palmetto, the state's highest civilian honor at a ceremony held at the Statehouse in Columbia. During that ceremony, he also received the highest honor the state presents in the arts—a Lifetime Achievement Award from the South Carolina Arts Commission at the 2017 Elizabeth O'Neill Verner Governor's Awards for the Arts. In 1980, Dr. Twiggs was the first visual artist ever to receive the Elizabeth O'Neill Verner Award.

Dr. Twiggs' powerful artwork employs batik, an ancient Indonesian technique of manual wax-resistant dyeing applied to whole cloth. He recently spent several weeks manually dyeing and dipping fabric pieces to achieve a texturally rich and deep-toned series titled, "Requiem for Mother Emanuel," to honor the victims of the Charleston massacre of June

17, 2015. His new series of paintings is titled, "The Nine," and focuses on the individual Charleston church shooting victims themselves.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Twiggs has spoken of the "powerful kind of catharsis" of his work, and his fondness for batik includes how the art form draws an individual into a piece. His unique paintings have received international acclaim. Several paintings have been displayed in U.S. embassies in Rome, Senegal, Sierra Leone and elsewhere; and his works have appeared in numerous textbooks, other publications and documentaries. He has designed official White House Christmas ornaments for former Presidents Barack Obama and George W. Bush. Dr. Twiggs is particularly proud that the new National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C. has accepted two of his paintings for display.

Dr. Twiggs has served on many important boards and commissions, including the South Carolina State Museum, the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts & Humanities, and the South Carolina Hall of Fame. His tenure in the latter capacity saw the induction of late Judge Matthew Perry, a personal hero of mine, former Governor Richard Riley, longtime former Charleston Mayor Joe Riley, and Ernest A. Finney, the first African American elected to the state Supreme Court since Reconstruction who later became the first African American Chief Justice of the state Supreme Court. Dr. Twiggs also influenced the induction of two pioneering African American women Septima Clark, another personal hero from my younger days and Marian Wright Edelman, a woman whose work I have long admired.

Dr. Twiggs was the first African American to earn a Doctorate of Art Education from the University of Georgia. He graduated Summa Cum Laude from Claflin University and received his Masters of Arts from New York University. He found the Art Department at South Carolina State University, my alma mater, and is credited with developing the I.P. Stanback Museum and Planetarium on campus. He was named Professor Emeritus in 2000. The Georgia Museum of Art organized a retrospective of his works that toured the southeast from 2004 to 2006: His lovely wife Rosa hails from my hometown of Sumter, South Carolina.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I call to your attention and to the attention of the Members of the 115th Congress, the accomplishments of this outstanding South Carolinian, Dr. Leo Twiggs.

SENATE VOTE ON ACA REPEAL

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2017

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, today, in a move that is a betrayal to the American people, the Senate voted 51 to 50 on a motion to advance debate on a piece of Republican legislation that would do away with most of the Affordable Care Act.

Reaching a 51-50 vote, where the tie was broken by Vice President MIKE PENCE, has been a struggle for Republican Members of the Senate because they realize that a repeal of Obamacare would result in tragedy for millions of Americans.