

What will we say to them?

The current climate of the MeToo movement is a wakeup call to the Nation. Let's not make this a partisan issue, because crimes of violence against anyone must be addressed.

Therefore, when we ignore an extraordinary movement such as the MeToo movement by not reauthorizing a strengthened and improved VAWA that meets today's challenges, then we have failed women.

If we do not defeat this previous question we are telling all of our constituents that rely heavily on VAWA and all of those that care about protecting women, men and children's rights against violence that we do not care.

On July 26, 2018, I introduced H.R. 6545, VAWA 2018, which is a compromise version with modest improvements, because I am committed to passing a bipartisan Reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act that is tailored to appeal to Members of Congress across the political spectrum.

We should all be committed to do the same in order to respond to the desperate pleas of our sisters and brothers in dire need of our help.

Colleagues, this is your moment to do the right thing for the right reasons and help bring H.R. 6545 to the floor for a vote.

This has always been a bipartisan effort. Let's not let the current times and background noise sway us away from our pivotal duties. Let's show the American people that we care about victims of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, sexual assault and sexual harassment, which I have added in VAWA 2018.

H.R. 6545 has received the support of the National Task Force to End Sexual and Domestic Violence, which is a national collaboration comprising a large and diverse group of national, tribal, state, territorial and local organizations, advocates, and individuals that focuses on the development, passage and implementation of effective public policy to address domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking ("the four crimes").

These modest, yet vital updates we have made to the existing Violence Against Women Act ("VAWA") are based on the needs identified by direct service providers who work daily with victims and survivors of the four crimes.

H.R. 6545 makes the following improvements and more:

It makes important investments in prevention, a key priority identified not only by people who work with victims and survivors daily, but also by our very own bipartisan Women's Caucus.

It provides resources to implement evidence-based prevention programming, which will make our communities safer and, ultimately, saves taxpayers money.

It also safeguards important protections that ensure all victims and survivors have access to safety and justice and provides a mechanism to hold predators who prey on Native women accountable.

Moreover, it provides law enforcement with new tools to protect their communities.

It offers protections for survivors in federal public, subsidized, and assisted housing.

It supports victims and survivors who need assistance rebuilding financially.

It addresses the needs of underserved communities, and improves the healthcare response to the four crimes.

It closes many of the loopholes found in dating violence.

And in response to the overwhelming victims in the MeToo movement, it adds sexual harassment as part of the applicable crimes of violence.

In short, the Reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act of 2018 is a narrow bill with a wide impact.

Let's not play politics with people's lives. Let's not short-change them by slashing funding in half. Let's not kick the can down the road while omitting funding. Let's not dismiss their cries and pleas. And certainly, let's not punish them mercifully because #THEY DID NOT REPORT.

RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2018 LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA—PRINCE WILLIAM, INC. AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recipients of the 2018 Literacy Volunteers of America—Prince William Inc. awards. Literacy Volunteers of America—Prince William Inc. (LVA-PW) is a local nonprofit organization that has served Prince William County for more than 25 years. Its mission is to improve lives through adult literacy. It trains local volunteers to become tutors then pairs them with adults seeking to improve their literacy or English language skills. LVA-PW offers a range of literacy services including GED classes, computer literacy, citizenship preparedness, English as a second language classes, and more.

Every year LVA-PW hosts an annual meeting and award presentation to honor and share in the achievements of its adult learners and volunteers. I am proud to include in the RECORD the names of the following LVA-PW award recipients:

Student of the Year: Bismark Osei. Bismark came to the U.S. from Ghana two years ago. He is a devoted and hardworking family man who came to LVA-PW seeking to better his life and further his education through earning a GED certificate. He joined LVA-PW's GED program one year ago and started taking three classes a week while also working full-time as a security guard. By August 7, 2018, through hard work and perseverance, he earned his GED certificate after only 10 months in the program. He plans to continue furthering his education and career goals by enrolling in college.

Tutor of the Year: Eduardo Lopez. Eduardo has been a volunteer with LVA-PW for more than two years. He serves as both a GED math tutor and basic computer literacy tutor. Since beginning at LVA-PW, he has provided over 350 volunteer hours while also working full-time. His passion, patience and encouragement inspires his students. This year alone, he has helped two students prepare for and pass the GED test. Eduardo is a living example of the impact that a single individual can have on a community.

Patti J. Beattie Volunteer of the Year: Martha Kobliska. Martha has been a volunteer with LVA-PW for more than 11 years. She serves as a tutor, fundraiser, and tutor trainer. As part of the tutor training team, she provides professional level training and certifications to all new tutors. This year alone, she has volunteered in excess of 325 hours to LVA-PW. Martha demonstrates her compassion and commitment to helping others through her positive spirit and willingness to serve whenever called upon.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating each of the LVA-PW award recipients and to thank them for their contributions to our community.

RECOGNIZING THE AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION BLACK CAUCUS OF HEALTH WORKERS

HON. BRENDA L. LAWRENCE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the American Public Health Association (APHA) Black Caucus of Health Workers on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. This organization, which is the first and oldest caucus of the APHA, was founded during the Association's 1968 annual meeting held in my hometown of Detroit, Michigan.

For 50 years, the APHA Black Caucus of Health Workers has worked diligently to eliminate and reduce gaps in health and health outcomes by improving the quality of life of people of African American descent through advocacy, knowledge, practice and research. They perform valuable work in a field that has an immeasurable impact on the lives of all Americans.

In addition to raising the standard of care across our nation, the Black Caucus of Health Workers works to eliminate institutional racism in their industry, to ensure that minorities in the healthcare industry are receiving equal treatment and a proper quality of life. They also support the future of our workforce by helping African American students complete their studies in public health programs. This essential work has developed a strong community of African American employees in the healthcare industry.

The Caucus continues to move our nation forward every day by improving healthcare delivery and fostering innovation. The Caucus closely monitors developments in the field and provides a crucial forum for communication among African American healthcare workers, so that they can share ideas to improve their work and their entire industry.

On this momentous occasion, I want to congratulate the visionary founders and members of the APHA Black Caucus of Health Workers, as well as APHA's current Executive Director, Dr. Georges Benjamin, and all the leaders of the APHA for their important work. I look forward to their continued work for the health of our nation.

RECOGNIZING CHILDREN'S CARDIOMYOPATHY AWARENESS MONTH

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting the Cardiomyopathy Health Education, Awareness, Risk Assessment and Training in the Schools (HEARTS) Act and in recognition of Children's Cardiomyopathy Awareness Month.

Cardiomyopathy affects both children and adults and is a chronic and potentially life-threatening heart condition that affects how the heart pumps blood through the body. The disease presents differently in individuals, and it can be difficult to detect when there are no apparent symptoms. For those not diagnosed, the consequences can be devastating. Research has shown that cardiomyopathy is a leading cause of sudden cardiac arrest.

All too often, we hear of an adult or child collapsing unexpectedly due to an undiagnosed heart condition. The Cardiomyopathy HEARTS Act will help educate affected individuals and their families, as well as school and health professionals about cardiomyopathy and encourage families to evaluate their family's cardiac history, check for cardiomyopathy symptoms, and seek medical screening if necessary.

Despite the severity of the cardiomyopathy, little is known about the prevalence, causes, and reasons for its variability. The Cardiomyopathy HEARTS Act also addresses this by requesting the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to evaluate current research initiatives on cardiomyopathy and direct the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to collect and analyze national data to identify the impact, prevalence, and natural history of cardiomyopathy.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill and helping the many families and children who are touched by this under-recognized condition.

And now is a great time to show our support. September is Children's Cardiomyopathy Awareness, to help raise the profile and spread information about this terrible disease. By encouraging individuals to know one's family's history and heart health, and discussing it with their doctor, can help determine whether one's child is at risk.

The Children's Cardiomyopathy Foundation, based in my home state of New Jersey, is the leading nonprofit in providing resources and support to families and children struggling with this terrible disease. They also work to raise awareness, along with their grassroots network of families and advocate for research and policies to help those suffering from pediatric cardiomyopathy.

It is my pleasure to help raise awareness for the Foundation and for pediatric cardiomyopathy.

MARKING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COLLEGE OF SOUTHERN MARYLAND

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the College of Southern Maryland on its sixtieth anniversary. I join in thanking President Maureen Murphy, faculty, staff, students, and alumni on this milestone. Recognized by the 2019 Aspen Prize as one of the top 150 community colleges in the nation, the College of Southern Maryland provides thousands of students with pathways to successful careers.

Founded as the Charles County Community College in 1958, its first classes met in the evenings at La Plata High School. A decade later, the College's La Plata campus opened its doors, and branches were launched to serve St. Mary's and Calvert Counties in the years that followed. Its name change to the College of Southern Maryland in 2000 reflected a growing regional institution of higher learning. Now, as it begins its seventh decade serving the community, the College provides a broad range of associate degrees, certifications, skills training courses, and wellness programs.

Always adapting to meet the educational challenges of its day, the College continues to adopt new technologies to further its mission. It now offers twelve fully online degree programs and is committed to continued innovation in the design and implementation of curricula. The College has stayed true to its foundational principles of diversity, affordability, accessibility, and forging innovative partnerships that benefit students. More than sixty academic institutions have partnered with the College of Southern Maryland to offer guaranteed transfer admission to its graduates who complete their associate's degrees and meet other criteria.

I've been proud over the years to support the work of the College of Southern Maryland, including by securing \$497,000 for its Nursing and Allied Health Care Training and Technology program in 2008 and \$468,000 for its STEM Workforce Initiative in 2009. I was happy to be on hand when the clinical nursing lab was opened in 2010 as well as to help facilitate a U.S. Department of Labor grant of \$1.5 million in 2012 for the College's program to teach juvenile offenders in-demand job skills for success in the workforce after their release. For the past six decades, the College has lived up to its vision of "transforming lives through lifelong learning and service", and I look forward to working with President Murphy and the entire College of Southern Maryland community to ensure that it can continue to do so.

RECOGNIZING THE GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY OF LANCE AND KARLA MORRELL

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Lance and Karla Morrell on the occa-

sion of their Golden Anniversary. I have had the great pleasure of personally knowing Lance and Karla for many years and consider them not only neighbors but wonderful friends. I can personally attest to their dedication to their family and community.

Lance Morrell and Karla Jane Brownmiller met as students at the University of Richmond. While attending the University of Richmond, Karla was Phi Beta Kappa and Lance was the senior class president. They married in Arlington, VA in 1968 and began their life journey together.

Lance served honorably in the United States Army and Army Reserves for more than 20 years, retiring as a Lt. Colonel. After his discharge he worked for 22 years with the World Bank where he managed projects to reduce poverty, provide clean water, and strengthen democratic governance in Southeast Asia and Africa. Lance spent years toiling in some of the poorest parts of Africa to help those most in need of assistance and Karla often travelled with him. He then founded FEI Consulting which allowed him to continue his efforts to improve living standards in the developing world.

Karla focused her attention on the family, especially their three sons. She and Lance have always been very involved in their children's education and activities. She was an active member of countless PTA's and volunteered at the snack bar at school sporting events for more than 15 years. Now, as a grandmother of five, most of her days are spent watching at least one of her grandchildren—a job that Karla adores.

Lance and Karla moved to Mantua in 1977 and immediately plunged themselves into local community activities. In fact, Karla and I served together on the Mantua Citizens Association for a number of years.

She was an irreplaceable ally during the period following a massive underground oil spill from a nearby tank farm into the neighborhood. Karla and I, along with many of our neighbors, coordinated efforts between the community, local, state, and federal agencies, and the tank farm owners. Our efforts ensured that the clean-up was done effectively, that the tank farm owners made necessary safety improvements and that they were held responsible for the damage done.

I had the great pleasure of working with Lance and Karla, along with other Northern Virginia neighbors, in the founding of the Cradle of Love Foundation. This Foundation, which operated from 2004 to 2008, was established to help provide financial support for an orphanage in the Philippines.

I often encourage people to "bloom where you are planted." This phrase, attributed to the Bishop of Geneva, Saint Francis de Sales, can mean different things to different people. To me it means that you should get involved in your community and take advantage of the opportunities to contribute that surround you. Whether it is volunteering, entering public service, coaching a youth sports team, or planting a tree, each of us has the ability and the responsibility to get involved. Lance and Karla Morrell are living examples of this philosophy in action.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Lance and Karla Morrell on their 50th wedding anniversary and in thanking them for their many efforts to improve our community and the lives of others. I wish