

H.R. 4, THE VOTING RIGHTS
ADVANCEMENT ACT**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to voice my support for H.R. 4, The Voting Rights Advancement Act (VRAA). The VRAA restores the protections and enforcement of the Voting Rights Act (VRA) to its former strength after being gutted by the 2013 Shelby County v. Holder Supreme Court decision. The VRAA responds to the wave of voter suppression tactics enacted by states and localities since that decision, requiring states with a recent history of voter discrimination to seek federal preclearance for election changes.

Voting is the cornerstone of our democracy and the fundamental right upon which all our civil liberties rest. In the previous two elections, we have seen an unprecedented increase in the engagement of voter suppression tactics. Specifically, in my home state of Texas, there have been ongoing suppression efforts, such as including additional obstacles for voter registration, cutbacks on early voting, and stricter voter identification requirements.

The VRAA will counteract these unfair practices by requiring a nationwide, practice-based preclearance for “known discriminatory practices,” such as the creation of at-large districts, inadequate multilingual voting materials and cuts to polling places. The VRAA will also increase transparency by requiring reasonable public notice for voting changes. Finally, the bill will allow the Attorney General authority to request federal observers to be present anywhere in the country where a serious threat to voter access and fair elections exists.

The reality is that we continue to see a number of significant obstacles to the free and fair exercise of the right to vote. Congress must do everything in its power to ensure that all Americans have the opportunity to exercise their constitutional right to vote. I support this critical legislation, and I urge my colleagues to vote for this bill as well.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2019

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I would have voted “yes” on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 995, as amended, which was considered on Wednesday, February 13, 2019.

TRIBUTE TO HENRY LEE JONES

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2019

Ms. MOORE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a man of faith, Henry Lee Jones. He was a husband, father, grandfather and entrepreneur from the Fourth Congressional

District of Wisconsin. Henry Lee Jones was born on July 19, 1943 in Aberdeen, Mississippi to the union of Elloyd and Rohdana Jones and passed away on February 18, 2019.

Mr. Jones moved to Milwaukee in his late teens and was employed by A. O. Smith as a welder for 12 years. In 1975, Henry and Bobbie's Bungalow was established on the corners of 14th Street and Keefe Avenue in Milwaukee. The restaurant featured specialties such as a variety of soul food, BBQ seafood and scrumptious desserts. The Bungalow's signature dessert is peach cobbler.

The Bungalow Restaurant provided catering services to many individuals in the community, as well as businesses and organizations. One of the most famous organizations he catered to was the Green Bay Packer franchise. In fact, as quoted in the Shepherd Express Newspaper, “The authenticity of Bungalow's Southern-styled menu heavy on pork, chicken, beef and fish has even captured the attention of the Green Bay Packers. Members of the Green & Gold have had Bungalow employees truck their soulful grub to Green Bay for many years now. Whether ordered from Lambeau Field or the Bungalow's cozy brick building, options abound. You'll find relatively rare dishes such as oxtails and smoked ham hocks in addition to more common fare like fried chicken, steak and catfish. And though the Bungalow staff takes pride in making healthy meat and sides, including yams, turnip greens and okra, one can still order “gravy, gravy and more gravy.” Even if you don't spot a Packer on a day you visit this establishment, you can still enjoy the many autographed photos on the walls.

As a successful entrepreneur, he was inspired to expand his business to other locations across the city of Milwaukee and Kenosha. He was never a complainer but rather a doer. Mr. Jones' children share his passion and continue to carry on his legacy and business.

He married Bobbie Jones on July 29, 1967 and their union was blessed with 5 sons: Henry, Jr., Milton, Rodney, Demetrius and Laval. Henry was preceded in death by his parents. He leaves many family and friends to cherish his memory including his wife Bobbie Jones and Children: Mitch Malone, Richard Jones, Henry Jones Jr., Milton Jones. Demetrius (Nichole) Jones and Laval Jones; Sisters: Dorothy (John) Williams, Delores Tools, Elloyd (Parline) Jones, Yvonne Jones; Grandchildren: Latoya (Emmanuel) Amoah, Deaquann Forrest, Vegas Jones, Naytasha Jones, Xavier Jones, Corey Malone, Britany Malone, Marcus Malone and Cortez Malone; 6 great grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Henry had a significant impact on the community who not only enjoyed his cooking but his loving and joking spirit as well. He was a pillar of the community, the patriarch of his family. I have known Mr. Jones for over 30 years, well before I began my legislative career and he was my friend. He has made a positive impact on Milwaukee and it is truly an honor for me to pay homage to someone who has contributed so much to Milwaukee and the State of Wisconsin.

Madam Speaker, for these reasons I rise to pay tribute to a man whose legacy will continue to benefit the Fourth Congressional District.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, February 28, 2019 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 5

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine United States European Command and United States Transportation Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2020 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SD-G50

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the electricity sector in a changing climate.

SD-366

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety

To hold hearings to examine states' role in protecting air quality, focusing on principles of cooperative federalism.

SD-406

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine vaccines, focusing on preventable disease outbreaks.

SD-430

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine pending nominations.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To receive a closed briefing on United States European Command and United States Transportation Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2020 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SVC-217

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Joseph V. Cuffari, of Arizona, to be Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security.

SD-342