

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a trailblazing Montanan as we celebrate Women's History Month.

A fearless, principled leader, Jeannette Rankin was a courageous pioneer. The daughter of a rancher and a teacher, she was born and raised in Montana. Growing up, she helped on her family's ranch and, in 1902, graduated from what is now the University of Montana.

As a staunch advocate for women's suffrage, she successfully led efforts to secure women the right to vote in Montana in 1914, 6 years before the 19th Amendment to our Constitution was ratified.

Four years before women could vote throughout our Nation, Montanans elected Jeannette Rankin to Congress. She was the first woman to serve in this body.

Dedicated to her guiding principles, Jeannette Rankin is foundational to Montana's and our country's history. It is my distinct honor to recognize her for her lasting contributions to our country during Women's History Month.

SHED LIGHT ON DARK MONEY

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

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, last week the House passed H.R. 1, the For the People Act, a sweeping voting rights and government reform package that returns the power of our democracy to the American people.

Since this week is Sunshine Week, I want to focus on a particular part of H.R. 1 that is designed to shine some much-needed sunshine on the corrosive influence of dark money.

Multiple sources reported this week that the President's 2017 inaugural fund received tens of thousands of dollars in contributions from shell companies to conceal illegal contributions from foreign donors.

Think about that. Foreign agents lavished tens of thousands of dollars on the U.S. inaugural celebration so they could try to influence our President.

That is why I introduced the Inaugural Fund Integrity Act, which is part of H.R. 1, to close loopholes in the existing regulations, to put an end to donations by foreign nationals and corporations, to ban personal use of inaugural funds, and to require disclosure of all donations and spending by inaugural committees.

It is hard to think of an area more in need of sunshine than a shadowy slush fund rife with opportunities for government corruption.

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1695, the Community Services Block Grant Reauthorization Act of 2019.

This bill renews our Nation's commitment to reducing poverty through locally driven, comprehensive approaches.

I am proud to lead this legislation with Congresswoman BETTY MCCOLLUM.

Mr. Speaker, the Community Services Block Grant traces its roots back more than 50 years ago to the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. This act established local committee action agencies to help people identify why people were in poverty and how to address it using public and private resources and partnerships.

Virtually every county in America has a community action agency. They act as a safety net for low-income individuals and families, but, more importantly, they help to create opportunities to raise people out of poverty—from poverty to independence.

The Community Services Block Grant is the only Federal program with the explicit goal of reducing poverty, regardless of its cause. Unfortunately, this program has not been reauthorized in more than 20 years, which is unacceptable.

It is time to reauthorize the Community Services Block Grant, and I urge all my colleagues to cosponsor and support this bill.

RIISING FOR MOLLY

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

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise for my Molly.

I stand here on the floor of the House of Representatives as a proud mother of a gay daughter.

When I was in the Air Force, we were taught never to leave anyone behind; and, after the 2016 election, I listened as my daughter, my Molly, cried in my arms.

She was scared for her community, the LGBTQ community. She was scared that America had left her and her community behind.

This is and was the country that I served. This was the daughter that I have raised. I was scared too.

When we decided, as a family, to run for Congress, Molly and I spoke about her story and whether she was comfortable with me sharing it with our Nation. We agreed that it was important.

As a mother, an ally, and now a Member of Congress, I feel it my duty and my privilege to champion the voices of those in the LGBTQ community.

I am proud to cosponsor the Equality Act. I do so for my daughter—my Molly—for my community, the Pennsylvania 6th, and for all of my fellow LGBTQ Americans.

You will not be left behind.

BMW CREATES JOBS

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, it was reported last week that the BMW plant in South Carolina remained the top vehicle exporter in America, with more than \$8.4 billion worth of cars shipped to foreign countries.

Nearly a quarter of a million cars were exported, with the vast majority sent from the Port of Charleston, led by State Ports Authority President Jim Newsome.

Mr. Speaker, 25 years ago, the late Governor Carroll Campbell recruited BMW to South Carolina with export production of 1,400 cars a day. Production in 2018 was 356,749 vehicles.

Governor Henry McMaster and Commerce Secretary Bobby Hitt continue to promote an additional \$600 million investment in Plant Spartanburg, which already at \$10 billion is the largest BMW plant in the world, providing 11,000 jobs.

Thousands of additional jobs in the region have been created by suppliers to the assembly facility.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

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WISHING SUPREME COURT JUSTICE RUTH BADER GINSBURG A HAPPY 86TH BIRTHDAY

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

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and to wish her a happy 86th birthday this Friday.

During this Women's History Month, we celebrate visionary women like Justice Ginsburg, whose work ethic and achievements have motivated me and many women across this country.

Throughout her career, Justice Ginsburg has been a pioneer for gender equality. As a first-year Harvard Law student, she was one of nine women in a 500-person class and became the first female professor to have tenure at Columbia.

She would later cofound the ACLU's Women's Rights Project, paving the way for groundbreaking work around issues like pregnancy and parenting, education equity and equal pay.

Undoubtedly, Justice Ginsburg has set a precedent for women everywhere and continues to do so as a Supreme Court Justice.

I wish Justice Ginsburg many more years of health and happiness. She truly is an American hero.