

HONORING ELAINE EIGEMAN

(Mrs. RODGERS of Washington asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Elaine Eigeman.

In Congress, every day we have people who come to the Nation's Capitol to advocate for important issues facing people in every community across our country. However, few do this as tirelessly and with as much passion and grace as Elaine.

As the board chair of the Lymphedema Advocacy Group, Elaine has given a strong voice to lymphedema patients all across the country.

She was the driving force behind the Lymphedema Treatment Act, which we will introduce in the House this week, to require Medicare to cover an essential part of lymphedema treatment.

Elaine developed lymphedema in 1999. Throughout her journey, she has made it her mission to support others and to be a voice for all suffering from this disease.

Thank you, Elaine, for your leadership and for creating a vibrant community for patients in the Northwest and beyond. I am proud to be your friend.

HONORING NATIONAL DEAF HISTORY MONTH

(Mrs. BEATTY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor National Deaf History Month, celebrated March 13 through April 15 each year.

What started as a very small observation at a Washington, D.C., library has grown to a 32-day-long celebration recognizing the countless contributions of deaf and hard-of-hearing Americans and honoring deaf culture.

I was so pleased when one of my constituents, Dawn Watts, an advocate for the deaf community, approached me with an idea of introducing a resolution recognizing Deaf History Month in Congress for the very first time.

I want to thank Dawn, as well as the National Association of the Deaf and the American Library Association, for their insight and support for this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all Americans to take time this month to learn more about deaf Americans who helped shape our country, and I am honored to be able to have introduced this resolution.

EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK

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

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, America is built on some core values that everyone should have an equal voice in our

democracy, that everyone deserves equal opportunity, and that equal work should mean equal pay.

Right now, however, equal work doesn't mean equal pay. According to the United States Census Bureau, on average, women earn just 80 cents for every dollar earned by men. This wage gap hurts women, of course, but it also hurts their families and our economy as a whole.

Yesterday, we took a major step toward addressing this challenge by passing H.R. 7, the Paycheck Fairness Act. This bill will help close the wage gap by holding employers accountable for discriminatory practices and making it easier for workers to seek redress.

If we believe that Americans deserve equal pay for equal work—and I believe that as deeply as I believe anything—then this bill is how we put our values into action.

I thank Representative DELAURO for her decades of leadership on this issue, and I urge the Senate to take up this bill. What better way to conclude Women's History Month than by making history for women and for all Americans?

SUPPORTING TRANSGENDER TROOPS

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

Ms. HAALAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of our transgender troops.

The United States is stronger and safer when our military reflects our Nation's diversity. This administration's transgender ban makes a mockery of that commitment. And let's be clear: This is a ban.

We must not ask transgender service-members to go back in the closet or tell them: You are less than other Americans.

I wholeheartedly support every single American who wants to serve our country. My father was a 30-year career marine, and he would never judge another marine on anything other than their ability to complete their mission. Why should there be another standard?

Trans servicemembers meet the same standards as every servicemember, and this was confirmed during a subcommittee hearing when trans troops testified as witnesses. These transgender troops were highly decorated and earned recognition on the basis of the quality of their work.

As all military personnel do, transgender troops deserve our respect. I challenge anyone who favors this kind of discrimination to look at their transgender constituents and tell them they are not fit to serve.

I thank my colleagues for taking a stand for all of our servicemembers today.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE BRIAN J. MAST, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable BRIAN J. MAST, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 27, 2019.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I, the Honorable Brian J. Mast, have been served with a subpoena for testimony in a criminal trial issued by the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,
BRIAN J. MAST,
Member of Congress.

COMMUNICATION FROM LEGISLATIVE CORRESPONDENT, THE HONORABLE BRIAN J. MAST, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Stephanie Cope, legislative correspondent, the Honorable BRIAN J. MAST, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 27, 2019.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I, Stephanie Cope, have been served with a subpoena for testimony in a criminal trial issued by the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,
STEPHANIE COPE,
Legislative Correspondent,
Office of Congressman Brian Mast.

ISSUES OF THE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, at this time, it is my honor to yield to my friend from New Jersey, not just a friend, but a brother, ardent pro-life advocate who I have seen has compassion for every baby child.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH).

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE AMERICA NEEDS TO HEAR

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend and