

and wrongful death litigation. Today, his business consists of six locations, three in Indiana and three in Illinois. The Kenneth Allen Law Group tirelessly seeks out cases that can bring about true change in society. Mr. Allen also gives much of his time and support to various charitable endeavors, including the Lake Area United Way and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Northwest Indiana.

Benito Gamba is the founder and owner of Gamba Ristorante, located in Merrillville, Indiana. Benito was born in Altomonte, Italy, and moved to the United States in 1977. After working in several established restaurants, Mr. Gamba opened his own place, Café Venezia, in 1988. In 2001, he then opened the Venezia Bar and Grill, which was followed by the opening of his current establishment, Gamba Ristorante, in 2006. At this time in his life, Benito is focused on providing good jobs and continuing to share his love of food with the people of Northwest Indiana and beyond.

Ron McColly, a Gary native, is the owner of McColly Real Estate, the largest residential real estate company in Northwest Indiana. Throughout the years, Mr. McColly continued to build his business, and he has been immensely successful due to his outstanding leadership skills and determination. Today, McColly Real Estate consists of twenty-three real estate offices throughout the region. The McColly Company includes: Community Title, McColly Bennett Commercial, McColly Insurance, McColly Auctions, and the McColly School of Real Estate. Ron has continuously given back to the community through charitable support for numerous organizations, including the Methodist Hospitals Foundation and the Crown Point YMCA, among many others.

David Van Eekeren is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Land O'Frost, a processed deli meat company that is headquartered in Munster, Indiana. David is the third generation of his family to run the business. Land O'Frost is currently the third largest producer of processed deli meats in the United States and has plants in Illinois, Kentucky, and Arkansas. Under Mr. Van Eekeren's leadership the company continues to grow and is focused on adding new and innovative products. David gives back to his community in many ways, especially through his support for the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation and his service as a trustee for the Illinois Institute of Technology.

The recipient of the Enterprise of the Year Award is U.S. Steel for recently pledging two billion dollars to a company-wide asset revitalization program. A large part of the revitalization program is allocated for Gary Works, which is the largest integrated steel mill in North America and stretches for seven miles along the Lake Michigan shoreline. Gary Works currently employs more than 3,800 people, providing good jobs for hard-working families throughout the region. The revitalization program will ensure that the company is able to continue building the economy in Gary and Northwest Indiana for many years to come.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending these dedicated leaders and organizations upon their induction into the Northwest Indiana Business and Industry Hall of Fame. They are truly deserving of this honor, and for their exceptional leadership and commitment

to the region and beyond, each of them is worthy of the highest praise.

#### GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

### HON. SUSIE LEE

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 14, 2019*

Mrs. LEE of Nevada. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and commemoration of the many victims and survivors of gun violence and to commemorate National Gun Violence Awareness Day in Nevada's Third Congressional District.

On average, 100 Americans are killed by gun violence every day and nearly 13,000 gun homicides occur each year. Americans are 25 times more likely to be killed with guns than people in other high-income countries.

Support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens goes hand-in-hand with keeping guns away from people with dangerous histories, and protecting the public's safety in the communities they serve.

Representatives and law enforcement officers know their communities best, are the most familiar with local criminal activity and how to address it, and are best positioned to understand how to keep their citizens safe.

In January 2013, Hadiya Pendleton, a teenager who marched in President Obama's second inaugural parade and was tragically shot and killed just weeks later, should be now celebrating her 22nd birthday. To honor Hadiya—and the 100 Americans whose lives are cut short and the countless survivors who are injured by shootings every day—a national coalition of organizations has designated June 7, 2019, the first Friday in June, as the 5th National Gun Violence Awareness Day.

The idea was inspired by a group of Hadiya's friends, who asked their classmates to commemorate her life by wearing orange; they chose this orange for two reasons: hunters wear orange to announce themselves to other hunters when out in the woods and orange symbolizes the value of human life.

Anyone can join this campaign by pledging to Wear Orange on June 7th, the first Friday in June in 2019, to help raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives of gun violence victims and survivors.

We renew our commitment to reduce gun violence and pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the wrong hands, and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our children safe.

I encourage all citizens to support their local communities' efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MICHAEL WALTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 14, 2019*

Mr. WALTZ. Madam Speaker, I unintentionally missed an amendment vote due to conversation with other members. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 191.

HONORING THE LIFE OF  
MARGARITA LÓPEZ PRENTICE

### HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 14, 2019*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and accomplishments of Washington State Senator Margarita López Prentice, who will be remembered for her dedication to public service.

I had the pleasure of serving with Ms. López Prentice in the Washington State Legislature, where she was the first Latina elected as a Washington State Senator. After first being elected in 1988, she served as a public official in the Washington State House of Representatives for four years, and then in the Washington Senate, for 27 years. Before her retirement in 2013, Ms. López Prentice served as the Senate Pro Tempore, and as Chairwoman of various committees. She was known for her caring manner, her mentorship, and her ability to forge bipartisan partnerships. Ms. López Prentice's many contributions to the State Legislature earned her the distinction of Legislator of the Year in 2006 from several organizations, including the Washington Health Care Association and the Washington State Labor Council.

Ms. López Prentice was dedicated to bettering the lives of others. Her career in nursing and her passion for women's health, LGBTQ rights, veterans' benefits, and migrant workers' rights, demonstrate her commitment to helping others. During her 30-year career as a nurse and nurse administrator, Ms. López Prentice was active in the Washington State Nurses Association, where she ultimately became vice president of the association. Ms. López Prentice spent countless hours giving back to the Renton community through her service for the Renton Historical Society and the Renton Area Youth Services, as well as on the Renton School Board.

Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I offer my condolences to the family and friends of Senator Margarita López Prentice. I am confident that her love of public service will continue to inspire Washington State Legislators for years to come.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 14, 2019*

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, due to flooding and severe weather in my district this week, I was unable to vote on May 10 and the prior day. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on rollcall No. 200.

HONORING THE LIFE AND HEROIC  
ACTIONS OF RILEY HOWELL

### HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 14, 2019*

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the life and actions of

Riley Howell, a true hero who sacrificed himself to save countless lives on May 1st at UNC Charlotte.

Riley was a 21-year-old student who had just transferred to UNC Charlotte last fall after studying at Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College. When a former student began shooting in his classroom, Riley was the first to ignore the danger and charge towards the gunman. Despite being shot three times, he still tackled the shooter with enough force to knock him off his feet. Riley's actions prevented the shooter from reloading and allowed campus police to intervene before any more damage could be done. However, Riley's courageous actions came at a dire cost—he passed away from his wounds.

Since Riley's passing, I have read story after story that speak to Riley's ingenuity, kind heart, love of Star Wars, and upstanding character. When folks heard about his heroic actions, they said it sounded exactly like what Riley would do to help someone in need or protect those who couldn't protect themselves. I'm as much in awe of Riley's actions as I am devastated that such carnage could happen at a place that made such a lasting impact on my life.

As a proud UNC Charlotte alumnus, my thoughts and prayers are with Riley's parents, Thomas Howell and Natalie Henry-Howell, his eight younger siblings, and all who loved him. As a father, I cannot imagine the depth of their grief and I offer my deepest condolences.

I know I speak for the entire community when I say, Riley will always be remembered for his heroic and selfless actions and I will do everything in my power to honor his memory and sacrifice.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in commemorating the life of Riley Howell and his heroic actions.

HONORING THE DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK OF THE SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR ON THEIR 136TH ANNUAL NEW YORK DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 14, 2019*

Ms. STEFANK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor The Department of New York of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War as they gather for their 136th annual encampment.

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is a fraternal organization founded nationally in 1881. Their mission is to preserve the history and legacy of those who fought and worked and died to preserve the Union. Its members are all descendants of soldiers, sailors, marines and revenue cutter service members who served honorably during the war.

The New York Department was founded two years after the national organization in 1883. Since that time, they have met annually in an encampment to conduct business, plan future volunteer activities and elect leaders. This historic organization has been dedicated to preserving the memory and legacy of those who bravely served for generations. They have volunteered their time at historical cemeteries en-

suring that the monuments and headstones of civil war veterans do not fall into disrepair and are maintained for future generations to see and reflect on. They also maintain an impressive collection of U.S. flags used by the military as far back as the War of 1812.

The Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War do us all a great service by preserving the memory and physical reminders of our history for future generations. On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I want to thank them for 136 years of dedicated public service.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BANNING SMOKING ON AMTRAK ACT OF 2019

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 14, 2019*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Banning Smoking on Amtrak Act of 2019. My bill would simply codify Amtrak's internal policy prohibiting smoking, including of electronic cigarettes, on its trains. This bill is modeled on a bill I got enacted as part of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 (P.L. 115–254) that clarified that the smoking ban on airplanes includes electronic cigarettes.

Although Amtrak implemented its own internal policy banning smoking on its trains in 1993, that policy could always be repealed, though Amtrak has not indicated it would do so. My bill would make the ban a matter of federal law and put Congress on the record in support of protecting people from secondhand smoke.

Smoking bans have been a critical tool in protecting people from the effects of secondhand smoke, known to increase the risk for serious cardiovascular and respiratory diseases like coronary heart disease, lung cancer and emphysema, among others. The World Health Organization (WHO) considers the tobacco epidemic to be one of the biggest public health threats in the world, killing more than seven million people a year. While more than six million of those deaths are the result of direct tobacco use, around 890,000 non-smokers exposed to secondhand smoke are also killed every year.

Under my bill, smoking would be banned on Amtrak trains in the same manner as airline travel. According to the WHO, there is no safe level of exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke. Even short-term exposure can potentially increase the risk of heart attacks.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RENEWABLE ENERGY TRANSFERABILITY ACT

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 14, 2019*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, the climate crisis we face is one of the most important challenges of our time. There has been a lot of alarming news—the last four years were the hottest years on record, and

we are seeing more and more extreme weather events devastate our communities. However, one of the success stories that we've seen in our efforts to combat climate change is the growth in renewable energy, particularly among wind and solar energy.

Today Representative DARIN LAHOOD and I are introducing the Renewable Energy Transferability Act to increase the deployment of renewable energy resources by making them transferable. This bipartisan legislation allows any entity involved in a renewable energy project to make a transfer after the due date of return (including extensions) of the Production Tax Credit and the Investment Tax Credit on a limited basis.

These two tax credits are some of the most successful renewable energy policies on the books, yet they have been hampered by requiring their beneficiaries to enter into complex tax arrangements. Transferability will allow these credits to reach a wider base of investors, expanding the deployment of renewable energy and lowering carbon emissions for consumers.

At a time of unprecedented climatic changes and public calls for action, Congress must act. While this legislation can only play part of a role in helping address the climate crisis, it takes an important step in assisting a key industry. I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to pass the Renewable Energy Transferability Act into law.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. DOUG JEFFE

**HON. TED LIEU**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 14, 2019*

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Mr. Doug Jaffe. Born and raised in Los Angeles, Doug was both a prominent figure in California politics and an invaluable member of our community. It was an honor for me to have known Mr. Jaffe, and I am incredibly sad he is no longer with us.

For over two decades, Doug was the aide and protégé of California State Assembly Speaker Jesse M. Unruh. He later put this experience to work as a campaign manager, policy advocate, and writer. In 1995, Doug founded Issues Management Network, a firm that specializes in message engineering and ballot measure campaigns. Doug used his policy experience and campaign skills to promote measures that would help others: for example, in 2002, Doug led a successful ballot measure campaign that secured funds to save and support trauma centers in Los Angeles County. No matter what he was working on, Doug's colleagues always noted his unflagging good humor and genial nature, an attitude that garnered him many friends over the years.

In addition to his work as a political professional, Doug was also the president of the Board of Directors of L.A. Theatre Works and served on the board of the Venice Family Clinic, two important community institutions in our region. He also contributed to the political blog Fox & Hounds Daily and lectured on political communications at the University of Southern California and the University of California, Los Angeles.