

When she accepted the 2016 Bay City Pearl Festival Honoree Award Phyllis said, "If you love the place you live, you are extremely blessed." A more complete story about Phyllis Watt Wustenberg's lifelong love of Oregon and the blessings that will continue due to her dedicated efforts will be available online at <http://www.tcpm.org> later this week.

The public is invited to celebrate the life of Phyllis Watt Wustenberg on Sunday June 9 from 2-5 p.m. at the Tillamook County Pioneer Museum, 2106 2nd St., Tillamook, OR 97141.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, May 22, 2019, I was unable to vote on roll call no. 222. If I had been present, I would have voted Yea.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mr. DeFAZIO. Madam Speaker, on May 20, 2019, my vote on Roll Call vote 219 was inadvertently not recorded. If it had been, I would have voted Yes.

HONORING WALSH UNIVERSITY'S
PRESIDENT RICHARD
JUSSEAUME RETIREMENT

HON. ANTHONY GONZALEZ

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to President Richard Jusseaume, who is retiring this year after 18 years of leadership at Walsh University. Ohio's second longest serving president of a four-year private university, President Jusseaume has ushered in unprecedented growth in almost every facet of the university's operations. In total, he has spent five decades at Walsh University in various roles including student, Dean of Students, Board of Directors member, and President.

Through the tireless work and effort of President Jusseaume, Walsh University has cemented its status as a leading academic institution. During his tenure, full-time undergraduate enrollment has increased by more than 60 percent, the university has more than doubled its number of undergraduate majors and launched its first doctorate programs, and the number of buildings on Walsh's North Canton campus has more than doubled from 11 to 27 buildings.

What happens at a university is richer than passing on intellectual knowledge. Classrooms shape our habits, thoughts, and practice, thus developing the future citizens of our liberal society. President Jusseaume has steadfastly dedicated himself to developing students into

leaders in service to others and prepared a diverse student body to thrive, and positively impact local and global communities.

As you and I know, strong leadership is critical to academic success. President Jusseaume's clear vision and unwavering commitment to students has shaped Walsh University into one of our nation's finest academic institutions, attracting the best and brightest. I congratulate and thank President Jusseaume for living out the passion and principle of the university's mission statement and wish him and his family all the best.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL
VACCINE INJURY COMPENSATION
PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT ACT
OF 2019

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program Improvement Act of 2019. This bill would further encourage the development of important vaccines by doubling the maximum number of special masters the Court of Federal Claims can assign to vaccine cases. I am pleased to be introducing this in conjunction with Senator BOB CASEY, who is introducing a companion bill in the Senate.

Vaccines are a vitally important component of our public health system. The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program ("Program") was created by Congress in 1988 so that individuals and families of individuals injured by childhood vaccines could receive financial compensation. This "no-fault" system caps the amount of compensation allowed under the Program for vaccine-related injuries, thus meeting the dual goals of encouraging further development of vaccines and compensating anyone injured by them.

The Program was also designed to accelerate the compensation process so plaintiffs would not have to undergo a full trial before receiving damages that could potentially be used to address their injuries. However, as the number of vaccines covered under the Program has increased, so, too, has the number of cases brought before the court and the special masters. The number of petitions filed has increased from 24 in fiscal year 1988 to 1,120 in fiscal year 2016.

Congress capped the number of special masters at eight when it first authorized the Program, and has not increased the number since, despite the increase in covered vaccines and petitions filed. To meet the demand caused by the increased number of these complex cases, my bill would increase the maximum number of special masters allowed to 16. Moreover, the court may reduce the number of special masters should the number of cases drop, as this is a statutory ceiling, not a floor.

This is an important measure to ensure compensation when necessary and further important medical development. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAPE FEAR
CHRISTIAN ACADEMY'S SOFT-
BALL TEAM

HON. GEORGE HOLDING

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mr. HOLDING. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Cape Fear Christian Academy Women's Softball team for winning the North Carolina Independent Schools Athletic Association 1A state championship. Led by coach Sterling Holmes and assistant coach Craig Autry, the CFCA softball team has officially won seven state titles.

As a 4th seed road team, the Cape Fear Christian Academy Eagles had an impressive record in the Final Four. In their first game of the weekend, the Eagles challenged the No. 1 seed Lawrence Academy and beat them with a score of 7-2. Both their batting and fielding was remarkable in their later game against No. 2 seed Ridgely School, which they won with 11 points against Ridgely's zero. The final score for the state title was 9-6 against Pungo Christian Academy.

I am very proud of the Eagles on this major accomplishment. Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Aubree Bass, Kristen Bass, Leah Brannon, Natalia Brocius, McKenzie Burris, Gabbi Chiodo, Rebekah Ennis, Shelby Hodges, Harmony Horne, Jada Horne, Rhyleigh Horne, Trinity Olive, Paige Jeffries, Anslee McLamb, Claire Parker, Meghan Taylor, and Averi Williams, as well as their coaches, families, fans, and Cape Fear faculty who supported them on their road to victory.

CONGRATULATING HIGH SCHOOL
GRADUATES ENLISTING IN OUR
ARMED FORCES

HON. BRIAN J. MAST

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mr. MAST. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate recent high school graduates from Palm Beach County who have made the decision to enlist in our Armed Forces. I would like to thank them for volunteering to serve our country. They include: Scott Carroll, Aspen Draeger, Gopal Harpalani, Tyler Huntoon, Ryan Keip, Michael Mee, Jaslyn Senger, Patrick Tierney, Devinity Salon, Deiontae Shannon, Andrew Hogan, Abigail Dasilva, Jaime Bustillo, John Dowd, Casey George, Peter Kanelidis, Stephen Manley, Andres Moreno, Ashton Skinner, Brandon Suh, and Skylar Thompson.

HONORING THE LIFE OF NATIVO
LOPEZ

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Nativo Lopez, a longtime voice for the Mexican American community in Southern California and a champion of

immigrant rights. Mr. Lopez passed away on Sunday, May 20th.

Mr. Lopez grew up in Los Angeles County in a family that had lived in the United States for six generations. He studied Spanish literature at California State University, Dominguez Hills.

Nativo Lopez was best known for changing the political landscape in Orange County. His determination and ability to organize volunteers, workers, people who had never been active in politics, led the start of the Orange County blue wave. Nativo began advocating and organizing at an early age. At the age of 13, he joined picket lines to protest funding cuts at a community center in East Los Angeles. As an 18-year-old at Excelsior High School, he and his brothers led a walkout of more than 200 Mexican American students to raise awareness for educational reform.

As a young professional, Mr. Lopez was a court interpreter in Los Angeles County. Mr. Lopez founded a Santa Ana chapter of Hermandad Mexican National, a group that provides services to and protects the needs and rights of Spanish-speaking immigrants. Nativo Lopez led Hermandad Mexicana for more than 30 years. His passion for ensuring that immigrant workers and their families, with or without documents, were treated with dignity and respect often sparked controversy, but his commitment to the cause never wavered.

In 1985, his name made national news when he helped more than 500 Santa Ana families stage a successful rent strike. Mr. Lopez won a seat on the Santa Ana Unified School District Board of Trustees in 1997. One of his most influential efforts was his creation of Assembly Bill 60, allowing unauthorized immigrants to apply for driver's licenses. Mr. Lopez was soon recognized as the undisputed champion of immigrant rights in Southern California.

Unfortunately, his life was cut short by cancer. Nativo Lopez leaves behind a legacy in fighting for civil rights, immigration rights, educational access, and community empowerment through civic engagement.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Lopez is truly a legend in the history of Latino leaders in Orange County and Los Angeles. His dedication and passion to serving the Hispanic community are truly unmatched. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the life of Nativo Lopez and his lifelong dedication to serving our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF BRYNN
BROWN AND ELI STOWERS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Guyer High School sophomores Brynn Brown and Eli Stowers, who recently won gold medals at the 2019 UIL Texas State Track and Field meet.

The students' victories are well-earned. Following her regional meet, Ms. Brown was a self-proclaimed underdog. At the beginning of her mile run, Ms. Brown was seeded fourth in a competitive array of runners. Despite these circumstances, she finished first with a mile

time of 4.28 minutes. Impressively, Ms. Brown won a second gold medal in the 3,200-meter run.

In the high jump competition, Mr. Stowers reached a remarkable 6 feet and 10 inches to claim the gold medal. Persevering through inclement weather, he rose to the challenge—a testament to his hard work and diligent preparation.

I commend Guyer High School track and field coaches Jonathan Ponsonby, Megan Hardesty, and Aaron Roberts for their leadership and dedication. It is a privilege to represent Guyer High School in the U.S. House of Representatives. I am pleased to recognize the achievements of Brynn Brown and Eli Stowers, and I wish them continued success in their athletic and academic endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF ALINA T.
HUDAK'S 35 YEARS OF SERVICE
TO MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

HON. DONNA E. SHALALA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of my friend, Alina Hudak, Deputy Mayor of Miami-Dade County, and her 35 years of public service to the greater Miami community.

Alina began her career in the Miami-Dade County government as a management trainee in 1984. In 1993, she became the first Hispanic woman appointed to the position of Assistant County Manager. In 1996, she was tapped for the position of Director of the General Services Administration. In 1998, she re-joined the County Manager's Office, and she took over the post of County Manager in 2011. She currently serves as Deputy Mayor of Miami-Dade County as well as Director of the Solid Waste Management Department.

Alina has worked with nearly every department of Miami-Dade's extensive administration, and she possesses an unrivaled knowledge of the County. Throughout her career, she has overseen an impressive portfolio of departments, including the nationally recognized Police and Fire Rescue, Animal Services, Elections, Transit, Public Works, the Citizen's Independent Transportation Trust, and the Public Health Trust. She spearheaded the County's Haitian Relief Effort, the United Way campaign, the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer campaign, and has acted as liaison for numerous county tournaments and events.

Alina continues to give to the Miami-Dade community. She is an active alumna of the University of Miami, where she earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and a master's degree in Public Administration. She is also deeply involved in the American Society for Public Administration and the International Women's Forum.

We have all witnessed Alina's extraordinary skill and dedication to Miami-Dade County. She has served with grace and heart, and I look forward to seeing the impact she will continue to make on our community for years to come.

EQUALITY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID B. MCKINLEY

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 17, 2019

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Speaker, let me be clear: I oppose discrimination in all forms, and agree that individuals should have protections against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender. Unfortunately, H.R. 5, the Equality Act, is a radical overreach that goes beyond the scope of discrimination and would harm doctors, families, women, religious groups, and many others.

The Equality Act fails to include conscience protections for doctors who have a moral or religious objection to the services they will be required to provide under the legislation. This bill would force doctors to forego their expertise and provide gender-affirming therapies, even if it goes against their best medical judgement. It could also force doctors and nurses to perform abortion-related services, regardless of their religious or moral objections.

This legislation also harms protections for women's sports provided by Title IX. Women are already beginning to lose sporting competitions and scholarships to their biologically male competitors who identify as females. These women have worked hard for their achievements and deserve the chance to compete on a level playing field.

Most importantly, the Equality Act would prevent parents from making health care choices that impact their own children and could even lead to parents losing custody of their children. In some states, like Ohio, this is already happening. A judge recently removed a biological girl from her parents custody after they did not allow her to take testosterone supplements to help her transition to a male. The federal government should not play a role in these important decisions.

This legislation does not serve as a constructive path forward to addressing the issue of discrimination in our country. That is why I voted against the Equality Act. It is yet another example of a messaging bill that will not be taken up in the Senate and therefore, will never be signed into law. Isn't it time that Congress finally put American families ahead of divisive, partisan politics?

SETTING EVERY COMMUNITY UP
FOR RETIREMENT ENHANCE-
MENT ACT

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1994, the Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement (SECURE) Act.

After a lifetime of work, all Americans should have access to retirement savings that will meet their needs and allow for each American to spend these years with friends, family, and doing what makes them happy. The SECURE Act includes numerous provisions to expand the opportunities for Americans to