



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 116th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 165

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2019

No. 108

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

CONGRATULATING WANDA KAY BROWN, AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Wanda K. Brown on her inauguration as president of the American Library Association, the oldest and largest library association in the world.

Ms. Brown has an exemplary record as the director of library services at Winston-Salem State University's C.G. O'Kelly Library in North Carolina's Fifth Congressional District. She also served as associate dean of the Z. Smith Reynolds Library at Wake Forest University.

During her tenure as president of the North Carolina Library Association, Ms. Brown received many national awards recognizing her leadership in numerous library organizations, including the Black Caucus of the American Library Association. Ms. Brown's presidency of the American Library Association is the culmination of an extraordinary career in librarianship.

I wish Ms. Brown the best in her new endeavors to expand valuable library services in America and around the world, and I know that the ALA is in great hands.

COMMEMORATING STONEWALL PIONEERS OF LGBTQ MOVEMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise, a proud American, and I am especially proud today because I rise to acknowledge that we have filed a resolution, H. Res. 464, that is styled the Original LGBTQ Pride Month Resolution of 2019.

I am proud to be a sponsor of the Pride resolution, but I am not doing it alone. There are 78 Members of Congress who are original cosponsors of this resolution. "Original" meaning their names will be right there on the resolution when it is filed.

I am so proud to be a sponsor of the Pride resolution, and I am proud to read just a couple of passages from this resolution and to address them rather briefly. It was my hope to have some 30 minutes to an hour of time to speak on the resolution, but circumstances in Congress will not permit such to take place.

This resolution acknowledges the 50 years since the uprising at Stonewall, which will be commemorated on June 28 and will last for some 6 days because that is the length of time that the Stonewall uprising, or as some would call it, the Stonewall riots or Stonewall rebellion, but 50 years since Stonewall.

I would like to read the whereas as it relates to Stonewall. It reads: "Whereas, those who took a stand for human rights and dignity at the Stonewall Inn in New York City on June 28, 1969, were pioneers of the LGBTQ movement, in-

cluding two transgender women of color, Sylvia Rivera and Marsha P. Johnson, who were brave visible leaders in the uprising at Stonewall Inn."

Mr. Speaker, it is said that a great person will always rise to the occasion, but the truth is, it takes a greater person to make the occasion. These two trans persons were the greater people who made the occasion that we will commemorate on June 28 and the 6 days that ensue, two persons who took a stand among many.

There were others, but there were two among the many who took a stand that literally has helped to shape the course of history. Sometimes, it really does take just a few to get the job done of starting a movement that can change society.

Mr. Speaker, notwithstanding all the change that has manifested itself since the Stonewall uprising, there are still things that must be done. There is still great work to be done because being an LGBTQ person, that alone can get you fired. Coming to work and saying you have just married someone of the same sex as you can get you fired.

LGBTQ persons do not have the same rights that we have, those of us who are allies of the community. They don't have the same rights. They have them, but they are not being identified and recognized. These rights don't come from people. They really are something we are born with. Human dignity is something that is accorded every person by birthright.

Unfortunately, in our society, we still allow this level of discrimination against LGBTQ persons.

I want to acknowledge that while there is still great work to be done, we still must commemorate and celebrate the great work that has been done. As a Member of Congress, I pledge to do all that I can to make sure that I pay a debt that I owe to the LGBTQ community.

Finally, I would say this: A person who helped to organize the march on

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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