

offers peer support services at four centers in Michigan, aiding dozens of communities across the state. Decades after its establishment, Ele's Place still works tirelessly to find new ways to support children experiencing loss and is fully dedicated to reaching its mission of ensuring no child in Michigan ever has to grieve alone. The efforts of Ele's Place are critical and have a real impact on our community, as its services help hundreds of children and teens each week.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ele's Place for its commitment to grieving children throughout Michigan and congratulate the organization on the opening of its new home in Ann Arbor. We are grateful for its impact on the children of our community and wish it continued success ahead.

#### RECOGNIZING INDIANA UNIVERSITY

#### HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2019*

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my alma mater, Indiana University, as we recognize and celebrate the Bicentennial Anniversary of this hallowed institution. As a beacon of world-class academic excellence, Indiana University has given the world a multitude of dynamic and impactful leaders in a vast array of disciplines. Both the United States and the international community have benefited from the influence of the legions of Indiana University alumni spanning the globe.

Shortly after gaining statehood, the Indiana General Assembly passed legislation mandating the creation of a state seminary institution in 1820. By 1822 construction on the earliest Indiana State Seminary buildings was underway in Bloomington, Indiana. In 1828, the State Seminary would be renamed Indiana College. Under the early leadership of inaugural President Andrew Wylie, whose term lasted from 1829 to 1851, the institution in Bloomington expanded its educational curriculum and transformed from Indiana College to Indiana University in 1829. Under the leadership of President David Starr Jordan, who served from 1884 to 1891, Indiana University saw major increases in enrollment, with the institution of the elective system. This multiplied the education offerings and solidified Indiana University's reputation as one of the premiere educational institutions in the United States.

As Indiana University closed out the 19th century, it became a leader in making higher education more accessible. As early as 1867, it became one of the earliest public universities in the country to admit women on an equal basis with men. Throughout the 20th century, Indiana University experienced massive changes under the direction of legendary President Herman B. Wells whose term lasted from 1938 to 1962. Total enrollment surpassed the 30,000 student threshold. Much of this increase coincided with the new opportunities available to military veterans as a result of the G.I. Bill. Guided by the leadership of President Wells, the university pursued an effort to become one of the foremost internationally recognized centers for research and scholarship. This expansion based a greater

emphasis on academic research in many different areas of study leading to further advancements in the understanding of both our natural world and the human condition.

Through these past 200 years, Hoosier students have displayed their excellence in the academic, athletic and cultural arenas, amassing numerous Rhodes Scholar, Marshall Scholar, and MacArthur Fellow honors in the classroom, as well as multiple Big Ten Conference and NCAA Championships in Men's and Women's sports. Over the last 200 years many notable Hoosiers have left their mark on our society. The university has produced world political leaders, cabinet members, titans of industry and commerce, cutting-edge scientific researchers, artists, Olympians, musicians, and entertainers.

In addition to the world-renowned undergraduate opportunities available at Indiana University, there are also over 400 graduate degrees and certificates that Indiana University offers students. Many of Indiana University's graduate schools have become industry leaders in the areas of medicine, law, business, music, media, education, politics, and the arts. The alumni of the graduate schools have also had a long and integral hand in the development of Indiana's well respected public and private sectors. The impact of research conducted by post-graduate students and faculty at Indiana University has been felt throughout the world, benefiting untold millions.

Now well into the 21st century, Indiana University, under the direction of the 18th President Michael McRobbie, has continued its steadfast charge to be a national leader in public education. Guided by President McRobbie, the university has undergone the largest academic restructuring in its history, leading to the creation of 10 new schools. Indiana University has also been dutifully supported by the many Indiana Governors and Indiana General Assembly Members over the past two centuries. Hoosier lawmakers continue to further the Indiana University commitment of providing students a world-class education.

Over 690,000 students and alumni of the 9 campuses throughout the State of Indiana have been well served by forward-thinking university administration officials. The Board of Trustees, Chancellors, Administration, Faculty, and Alumni Association members have been integral to the immense academic and educational footprint that Indiana University has developed and maintained. This leadership has allowed Indiana University to develop over 16 schools and 550 individual degree programs, keeping Indiana University on the cutting edge of student development and academic excellence.

I join all current and former Hoosiers in wishing our beloved alma mater a happy Bicentennial Anniversary. Hail to Old I.U.

RECOGNIZING MS. GAYLE BRIDGES HARRIS ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT FROM 47 YEARS OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

#### HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2019*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize a great American and public servant, Ms. Gayle Bridges Harris of Durham, North Carolina. Lauded as a skilled and resourceful community builder and valued public health leader in Durham, NC, Ms. Harris will be retiring after 47 years of faithful and dedicated service to the health and well-being of all those she served. I am honored to share with my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives the accomplishments of this remarkable public servant.

As the 2nd African American student to graduate from Duke University School of Nursing, Gayle Harris' extraordinary career began in 1970. At 22 years of age, she began work at Durham County Health Department as a public health nurse. Ms. Harris' most recent role was serving as the Public Health Director and the General Manager for Community Well-being for Durham County, North Carolina.

As General Manager for Well-being, Ms. Harris provided strategic leadership for Durham County's Department of Public Health, Department of Social Services, Cooperative Extension, Veteran Services and Durham Public Libraries. She also served as a lead liaison between the County and Alliance Behavior Health Care, Durham Parks and Recreation, Duke University Health System, Lincoln Community Health Center, Public and Private Universities, United Way of the Greater Triangle and other entities uniquely positioned to promote Durham's health indicators to new levels.

With nearly 50 years of service in Durham County, Ms. Harris has served in several significant leadership roles. As Public Health Director since 2009, she contributed to the design of and managed the department's move into a new Human Services Building in 2011. At that time, she also played a key role in implementing two innovative programs: the Durham Diabetes Coalition, a joint venture of Durham County Department of Public Health with Duke University Health System to address diabetes in the community, and Bull City United, a violence interruption/reduction initiative. Ms. Harris was elected to serve as the President of the North Carolina Public Health Nurse Administrators in 1994 and the President of the North Carolina Public Health Association in 2011.

Gayle Harris is the recipient of numerous awards: Communities Joined in Action 2014 Grassroots Leaders Award; Senior Pharm Assist 2014 Thomas R. Howerton Leadership Award; NC Association of Local Health Directors 2013 Ham Stevens Award for Outstanding Contributions to Local Public Health; Auxiliary of the Durham Academy of Medicine, Dentistry & Pharmacy 2012 Legacy Award; Duke University School of Nursing 2012 Distinguished Alumna Award; and University of North Carolina School of Public Health Alumni Association 1995 Distinguished Alumna Award. She was inducted into Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing in 1990.

Ms. Harris has served on numerous boards and committees, including Durham County's Strategic Plan Goal Champion (Health and Well-being for All); Mayor's Initiative to Reduce Poverty One Neighborhood at a Time; Durham Community Health Network; Project Access of Durham County Board of Directors (Vice-Chair); Co-Principal Investigator and Steering Committee member of the Durham Diabetes Coalition; United Way of the Greater Triangle Women's Leadership Council and Health Impact Committee; Durham YMCAs; and the Lincoln Community Health Center Board of Directors (Secretary).

In 2012, spearheaded by Ms. Harris's efforts, the Durham County Board of Health, supported by the County Commissioners and City officials, adopted a rule to regulate smoking in prescribed public areas. In a city once dependent on tobacco for its existence, much of its public space is now smoke free including parks, bus stops, sidewalks, public indoor areas such as restrooms, and public areas of retail establishments.

In 2014, the Durham health community, under Ms. Harris' leadership, won the prestigious RWJF Culture of Health award. This award "recognizes communities that have come together around a commitment to health, opportunity, and equity through collaboration and inclusion; especially with historically marginalized populations and those facing the greatest barriers to good health." Because of Gayle Harris' leadership and support, the Durham County Department of Public Health has led racial equity work within Durham County Government by hosting racial equity training and presentations for thousands of government employees, nonprofit agencies, businesses, and community members.

Gayle Bridges Harris has played a critical role in advancing the culture of health in Durham, North Carolina. She is a health leader from whom others learn. In her honor, we remember that: "A community's vitality is built upon the health of the residents and the capacity of the community to foster and enhance the well-being of every citizen."

I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Ms. Gayle Harris on this auspicious occasion.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2019*

Mr. McEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on September 17, 2019 during roll call no. 531, On Motion to Instruct Conferees, S. 1790, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 532, On Closing Portions of the Conference, S. 1790, National Defense Authorization Act of the Fiscal Year 2020. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

#### SECURE AND FAIR ENFORCEMENT BANKING ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 25, 2019*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following letters of endorsement for H.R. 1595, the SAFE Banking Act.

#### LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTION PARTNERSHIP.

To: Chairwoman Maxine Waters and Members of the Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Financial Institutions  
From: Major Neill Franklin, Ret., on behalf of the Law Enforcement Action Partnership (LEAP)

Re: Challenges and Solutions: Access to Banking Services for Cannabis-Related Businesses

Hearing: Wednesday, February 13, 2019, 2:00 p.m.

Position: Support

Distinguished members of the Committee, thank you very much for the opportunity to present the views of the Law Enforcement Action Partnership (LEAP) in support of this legislation.

LEAP's mission is to unite and mobilize the voice of law enforcement in support of drug policy and criminal justice reforms that will make communities safer by focusing law enforcement resources on the greatest threats to public safety, promoting alternatives to arrest and incarceration, addressing the root causes of crime, and working toward healing police-community relations.

"LEAP envisions a world in which criminal justice and drug policies keep our communities safer." This is a quote directly from our website and that quote is exactly what this hearing is about. It is about enacting policy that will dramatically enhance public safety in our communities.

This hearing is not, nor should it be, a hearing about whether we should legalize, regulate, and control marijuana for adult use. It should be clear to everyone here that Americans have already decided this issue. In October, Gallup said 66% of American residents supported legalizing marijuana. More than half of states already allow marijuana for medical and/or adult-use purposes. A vast majority of Americans live in a state where marijuana can be purchased legally. This is not a niche business market; it's a significant part of our economy.

If Congress respects the rights of the states and the will of the people, as protected in the Tenth Amendment, then we don't need to debate the legalization of marijuana or medical marijuana here today. We need to decide how best to protect those states, given the choices they've democratically enacted. However, I know some opponents will try to cloud the banking issue with attacks on legalization, so I will quickly address some of these concerns.

Let's talk about what's happened in Colorado, the first state to legalize marijuana for adult use. A federal study by the National Survey on Drug Use and Health showed that teen marijuana use decreased after legalization. The American Public Health Association determined that "motor vehicle crash fatality rates . . . were not statistically different from those in similar states without recreational marijuana legalization." Furthermore, legalization has resulted in a significant decrease in traffic stops, leading to fewer negative interactions between police and drivers, potentially limiting dangerous

clashes and tensions with people of color. And because police didn't have to waste their time on these stops and could concentrate on real crime, researchers studying Uniform Crime Reports data (another federal publication) concluded legalization had resulted in greater police clearance rates. So don't listen to Chicken Little. The sky over Colorado did not fall.

Licensed marijuana businesses are legitimate contributors to our economy. It follows that regulated banking, vendor relations, payroll, and tax payments should be permitted as part of that legitimacy—a condition that will further serve to dismantle the illicit market's influence in this growing industry and help local economies.

Current conditions, which require all-cash transactions in every aspect of the business encourage tax fraud, add expensive monitoring and bookkeeping expenses, and—most importantly—leave legitimate businesses vulnerable to theft, robbery, and the violence that accompany those crimes. The SAFE Banking Act presents us with an opportunity to greatly assist in stabilizing the industry and enhancing public safety.

As more legitimate businesses are established, opportunities for cash robberies will increase as more grow-facilities and dispensaries come on line. Securing cash on-site, transporting cash to secure locations, and managing cash payroll are necessities for these businesses. And criminal entities are quite adept at conducting high-level reconnaissance of businesses and their security protocols when they know those businesses will have tens of thousands—or even hundreds of thousands—of dollars on hand.

Although extremely important for business owners and the people they employ, my greatest fear is not the loss of profits due to theft. It is the potential for serious assaults and death to the people attempting to protect that cash, or who are merely responsible for it. I fear dispensary employees being at great risk. I fear for the safety of those transporting the cash, and I fear for the well-being of employees on payday. Two weeks of pay for one employee can easily exceed a few thousand dollars. That one employee trying to get home safely from work is an attractive "score" for any criminal, and a very easy target for those who know what to look for. Beyond any concern for protecting profit, we have a duty to protect the lives of community members working to earn a living.

In 2012, Melinda Haag, the U.S. Attorney for Northern California, said, "Marijuana dispensaries are full of cash, they are at risk of being robbed, and many of them are." One example of what can happen: In October 2012, three people kidnapped the owner of a lucrative dispensary in Orange County. According to court documents, the assailants zip-tied the victim, tortured him, and drove him to a patch of desert where they believed he had buried large sums of money. When the kidnappers couldn't find it, they burned him with a blowtorch, cut off his penis, and doused him with bleach before dumping him along the side of a road.

Four of my policing years were spent investigating crimes within Maryland's Division of Corrections. I've interviewed hundreds of incarcerated civilians convicted of serious crimes, many of whom were proud to boast of their criminal activities and strategies. Their strategic thought process is minimal. The easier the target the better. The bigger the "score" the better. Casing the next target is about finding the softest target, and the current conditions in this industry have created many soft targets.

We, the police, teach target hardening when we conduct security assessments for business owners. Our advice to them is not to