

from, pay \$4.49. Really, shipping that gallon of milk to Hawai'i from California is 30 percent of the total cost of the product in Hawai'i?

In 2012, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York studied Puerto Rico's economy and found that "the high cost of shipping is a substantial burden on the Island's productivity." The New York Fed found that, "[i]t costs an estimated \$3,063 to ship a twenty-foot container of household and commercial goods from the East Coast of the United States to Puerto Rico; the same shipment costs \$1,504 to nearby Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic) and \$1,687 to Kingston (Jamaica)—destinations that are not subject to Jones Act restrictions." There is only one reason why costs are double to ship from the continental United States to a domestic port in Puerto Rico as compared to foreign ports in the Dominican Republic and Jamaica: there is international competition on the latter routes, none on the domestic route and the shipping companies take full advantage of that lack of competition.

The three bills I introduce today say: enough is enough. If you, the continental U.S., wants to continue the Jones Act as to shipping between your locations, that's your business. But don't penalize us island and other non-contiguous locations by throwing us to the monopoly wolves you've created.

The first bill, the Noncontiguous Shipping Relief Act, exempts all noncontiguous U.S. locations, including Hawai'i, from the Jones Act. The second, the Noncontiguous Shipping Reasonable Rate Act, benchmarks the definition of a "reasonable rate" that Jones Act shipping can charge to within ten percent of analogous international shipping rates. And the third, the Noncontiguous Shipping Competition Act, prevents monopolies or duopolies in noncontiguous Jones Act shipping. Essentially, the bills are intended to lay out options for providing relief for our U.S. noncontiguous areas. We can resolve the issue in many ways, but we must change the status quo which has had such a deep, broad and negative impact on my state and the other jurisdictions beholden to the Jones Act.

The Noncontiguous Shipping Relief Act would allow the noncontiguous jurisdictions to be serviced by non-Jones Act vessels and increase, or in some cases create any, competition in these critical shipping lanes. Again, this is a small portion of the total national Jones Act shipping where it is particularly destructive in application.

Let me address directly the argument offered up by the domestic shippers in defense of the Jones Act: that it contains important labor and environmental protections that would be lost upon repeal. My bill would retain these important protections. Specifically, it provides that all foreign shippers operating under the bill's Jones Act exemptions must comply with the same labor, environmental, tax, documentation, U.S. locus and other laws as are applicable to non-U.S. flag ships and shippers transiting U.S. waters today.

The Noncontiguous Shipping Reasonable Rate Act would define a "reasonable rate" for the noncontiguous domestic ocean trade as no more than ten percent above the rate set by a comparable international rate recognized by the Federal Maritime Commission. Currently, the Surface Transportation Board technically has the authority to adjudicate and set precedent on what a "reasonable rate" is for Jones Act shipping, but it has almost never

been used and never to a clear conclusion on what is a reasonable rate. My bill would define reasonable to remove uncertainty. Current Jones Act shipping rates vary widely and there is no central compilation of these rates. The ten percent benchmark would allow for variance but also ensure that Americans in our noncontiguous areas are not forced to pay exorbitant rates way above shipping rates which would otherwise be provided through international competition were the Jones Act not applicable.

The Noncontiguous Shipping Competition Act would exempt shipping routes to non-contiguous jurisdictions from the Jones Act requirements if a monopoly or duopoly exists on those routes. The Jones Act has resulted in the blossoming of monopolies and duopolies in our noncontiguous jurisdictions. To ensure that these communities, which are the most reliant in the country on shipping to receive necessities, are not held hostage to these dominant companies, my bill would give Jones Act exemptions to routes that are not serviced by at least three companies with separate ownership. In short, if a domestic route is in fact in a competitive environment, the Jones Act is less of a problem, but if there is no competition, then the route should be opened up to international competition by rescinding the Jones Act.

Madam Speaker, these long-overdue bills are of the utmost importance to the localities which have long borne the unfair brunt of the Jones Act. It is often difficult to pierce the veil of longstanding custom and understanding to see the real negative impacts of a law and what should instead be. It is even more difficult to change a law which provides a federally-created and endorsed monopoly under which no competition exists to hold down prices. Yet clearly the time for these measures is overdue. I urge their passage.

CELEBRATION OF NEW GARDEN
ENTRANCE, GARDEN ENTRY PA-
VILION, & CIRCLE

HON. WILLIAM R. TIMMONS, IV

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 19, 2019

Mr. TIMMONS. Madam Speaker, the Hatcher Garden and Woodland Preserve in my district recently celebrated the opening of its new garden entrance, entry pavilion, and circle. The Hatcher Garden and Woodland Preserve originated as the vision of its namesakes, Harold and Josephine Hatcher. The Hatcher's shared a passion for gardening and education. The family gradually expanded beyond their initial small wooded residential lot to ten acres, adding walking paths and trees to rehabilitate the land and reclaim eroded cotton fields. Their zeal inspired many volunteers to join their efforts to develop a gift to the community—a shared garden and woodland preserve for relaxation and information. Their life project was donated to the Spartanburg County Foundation in 1987 to ensure its continuance.

Today, the Hatcher Garden and Woodland Preserve exceeds twelve acres. It is open to the public and free of charge to all visitors, in line with the Hatcher's vision. Outdoor education programs are offered for elementary school children and opportunities are afforded

to more than 60,000 visitors to experience inspiration, enjoyment, and education through nature.

This December, a two-year project was completed at the Garden. The new facilities will enhance the experiences and opportunities enjoyed by visitors of all ages, and will continue to be a source of knowledge and information to the community. I am grateful for the Garden's continued efforts in my district and I look forward to their continued success.

RECOGNIZING THE INAUGURATION
OF THE PRINCIPAL AND SECOND
CHIEF OF THE ALABAMA-
COUSHATTA TRIBE OF TEXAS

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 19, 2019

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the inauguration of Herbert Johnson, Sr. and Donnis Battise as Principal Chief and Second Chief, respectively, of the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas on January 1, 2020.

Herbert Johnson, Sr., a member of the Beaver Clan, served two terms on the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe Council, and held the position of Tribal Security Director for 21 years until his retirement in 2012. Mr. Johnson was vibrantly active in his community, serving on the Tribe's volunteer fire department and as the manager of the Tribal softball and basketball leagues for numerous years. He attended Jacksonville College, and later earned certification from Kilgore College and the Angelina Criminal Justice Center as an East Texas Police Academy reserve officer. Mr. Johnson is a member of the Indian Presbyterian Church, and has served nearly half a century on the Big Sandy Independent School District Board of Trustees. In all his endeavors, he enjoys the love and support of his wife, Deloris, and he takes great pride in their five children: Davie, Delbert, Retha, Herbert Jr., and Heather, and their five grandchildren: Jackson, Camille, Raegan, Aaliyah, and Stormi.

Donnis Battise, a member of the Bear Clan, has served two terms on the Tribal Council and has been a member of the Tribe's volunteer fire department. During the Vietnam War, Mr. Battise served in the U.S. Army and is active today with the Tribal Veterans Association. Mr. Battise was employed in the lumber and paper industries for 33 years, and more recently retired from his position as a gaming attendant at Naskila Gaming. As a fervent follower of the Indian Presbyterian Church, Donnis serves both as an ordained elder and deacon of the church. He and his wife, Carol, are the guardians of Lilly Ann Alec.

Herbert Johnson, Sr. and Donnis Battise have earned the high esteem of Tribal members through their many years of outstanding service, and it is indeed a pleasure to honor them on this special occasion.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Herbert Johnson, Sr. and Donnis Battise on their inauguration as Principal Chief and Second Chief of the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe and I ask that they may be extended sincere best wishes for the future.

HONORING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF KEYSTONE COMMUNITY SERVICES

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 19, 2019

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Keystone Community Services' 80th anniversary. For 80 years, this non-profit organization has provided critical programs and services that empower youth, families, and seniors in Saint Paul and Ramsey County, Minnesota.

Founded in 1939 as Saint Paul Community Services, a small, neighborhood community center, it provided youth programming and services to its neighbors. Programs included athletics, Color Guard, hobby clubs, and pre-school-age programming. In 1941, volunteers contributed 60 hours per week to assist a total of 700 individuals. Today, more than 340 youth participate in Keystone programs that develop and sharpen their academic, social, and early employment skills, helping young people become successful adults.

In 1971, Keystone expanded to provide food shelf services to hungry neighbors. Last year, Keystone distributed 2.3 million pounds of quality, healthy food to neighbors in need. Today, more than 26,000 people each year depend on Keystone's food shelf services. Keystone's Programming for Active Seniors started in 1972, which included education, fitness classes, and social activities for low-income older adults. Today, more than 1500 older adults participate in a variety of senior programs at Keystone's two community centers in Saint Paul. Additionally, Keystone's Meals on Wheels Program provides seniors and adults with disabilities with nutritious meals and keeps them living in their homes as long as possible.

Keystone is aptly named for the essential wedge-shaped stone of an arch that locks the other pieces in place. Programs that meet basic needs, provide crisis support, build communication, and help navigate and coordinate services are the keystone of its work. Keystone Community Services has grown to serve over 30,000 people annually, in large part due to volunteers who donate 700 hours each week.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the 80th anniversary of Keystone Community Services strengthening Saint Paul and Ramsey County, Minnesota communities.

RECOGNIZING MAYOR JEFF TILTON FOR HIS 8 YEARS OF SERVICE AND LIFETIME OF DEDICATION OF THE ZANESVILLE COMMUNITY

HON. TROY BALDERSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 19, 2019

Mr. BALDERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mayor Jeff Tilton, for his dedication to Zanesville, Ohio and the surrounding area.

Mayor Tilton's career, now spanning more than four decades, exemplifies a selfless com-

mitment to public service. After dedicating 39 years to Burnham Foundry, Jeff served three plus terms as Zanesville Councilman. Jeff was then sworn in as Mayor in 2011. Jeff's service stretches far past his duties as Mayor as he is also a member of multiple local organizations, such as the Genesis Advisory Board, the Advisory Board of the Oaks at Bethesda and Northpoint, the Zanesville Sertoma Club, and the Salvation Army Board, just to name a few.

As a holder of public office, Mayor Tilton has continually gone above and beyond his call of duty. Jeff can be credited for improving broadband access, infrastructure, and downtown development in Zanesville. Outside of local government, Jeff's dedication has manifested itself in countless ways over the years, including in his volunteer work around Zanesville. Jeff is an active volunteer with Miracle on Main Street, Souper Bowl Sunday and the Y-Bridge Arts Festival. Many different groups and organizations throughout Muskingum County have benefited from Jeff's time and assistance.

Admired and respected by the people that have had the chance to work alongside Jeff, it is evident he has left a positive impact on Zanesville and the individuals that make up the community. As family, friends, and Zanesville gather to recognize Jeff's outstanding career, I salute him for his ongoing commitment to service above self. Mayor Tilton can take great pride in all he has accomplished and in the positive impact that his work has—and will continue to—have.

I thank Jeff for his devotion to bettering Zanesville, Ohio and in turn, I honor him for his incredible record of achievement.

HONORING THE LIFE OF FRED MAYER

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 19, 2019

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of Fred Mayer, who passed away on December 10, 2019, at the age of 86 after a lifetime of exemplary public service to his community.

Fred Mayer was born in Kansas City to Anna Landie Mayer and Maximilian Philip Mayer. His father died when he was just six months old and his mother reluctantly placed Fred and his older sister in Jewish orphanages in Kansas City and Denver while trying to secure employment to support the family. Mr. Mayer would later credit his time in the Jewish orphanages with helping to develop his great sense of justice. He would go on to champion causes that served the greater community and would always put others above himself. When he was eight, the family reunited and moved to San Francisco. At the age of 12, Mr. Mayer started working at local pharmacies and later went on to graduate from Lowell High School, the University of California, Berkeley, and in 1954, the pharmacy school at University of California San Francisco. After graduating with his pharmacy degree, Mr. Mayer served in the United States Army where he ran a mobile surgical unit in Germany.

Following his service in the Army, Mr. Mayer met and married Jacqueline Levy Mayer in

1958, and a year later, they settled in San Rafael, CA. In 1963, Mr. Mayer bought Sausalito Pharmacy and operated it for 33 years. Mr. Mayer used his pharmacy as a place to educate the community on various public health issues including the dangers of smoking and the need for safe sex education. In the 1970s, Mr. Mayer started a methadone program from within the pharmacy, and after a close friend of his died of cancer, the pharmacy became one of the first drugstores in the nation to stop the sale of tobacco. In 1974, Mr. Mayer went back to school at the University of California, Berkeley, to obtain a master's degree. Soon after, he founded a non-profit organization, Pharmacy Planning Service Inc., where he continued to deliver much needed community education on public health.

Known to all around him as larger-than-life, Mr. Mayer worked well into his later years. Most recently, he worked to educate medical cannabis users about interactions with other medications that might be harmful. He was also well known for his Great American Smokeout campaigns, bolstering National Condom Week, and his crusade to put child safety caps on prescription medications.

Mr. Mayer was a well-respected community leader who will be remembered for his dominant spirit and commitment to public service. He is survived by his daughter Heidi and his sons David and Charles. While he will be greatly missed, Mr. Mayer's legacy will live on through the indelible positive impact he had on his many friends and family and the community at large.

RECOGNIZING MR. ELWYN RAYMER FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MUSIC INDUSTRY

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 19, 2019

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize President and CEO of the Church Music Publishers Association's (CMPA) Action Fund, Mr. Elwyn Raymer, for his 50-year career dedicated to bettering the music publishing industry.

In 1966, Raymer moved to Music City and became Music Editor for Broadman Records and Music at the Baptist Sunday School Board, currently known as Lifeway. During his time as Music Editor, he produced and published the musical Celebrate Life. This musical touched the lives of millions nationwide and sold more than 600,000 copies.

As Executive Vice President of Triune Music and Triangle Records and President of Lorenz Creative Services, Raymer focused on his advocacy for songwriters, artists, and publishers. In 1990, Raymer joined Bertelsmann Music Group (BMG) where he helped establish the group's entry and success into Contemporary Christian Music. During his tenure at BMG, he became a leader for his ability to carry out acquisitions and attract talented musicians and songwriters. While at BMG, Raymer redefined and expanded the group's scope by overseeing the purchase of Reunion Records and Music and the acquisition of half of the Sparrow Music catalogues. As a direct result, BMG went on to unleash a new era in the groups chapter of music making with songs such as