

by Alabama state troopers, who ridiculed, tear-gassed, clubbed, spat on, whipped and trampled them with their horses.

In the end, John Lewis's skull was fractured by a state trooper's nightstick, and 17 other marchers were hospitalized.

In direct response to Bloody Sunday, Congress passed, and President Lyndon Johnson signed into law the Voting Rights Act of 1965, the greatest victory of the Civil Rights Movement, and the most significant advance in the field of civil rights and democratic governance since the Civil War Amendments of the 1860s.

Selma marked a turning point in history because it was the place where moral courage met and overcame entrenched power.

The Edmund Pettus Bridge is more than a bridge; it was the portal through which America left the dark days of its past and marched into a better and brighter future.

And the trail of that journey is marked by the blood of the foot soldiers who led the way.

Despite, or perhaps because of its proven effectiveness in breaking down voting barriers, on June 25, 2013, the Supreme Court, issued the shameful decision in *Shelby County, Alabama v. Holder*, which struck down Section 4(b) of the VRA, which immobilized the heart of the Act, the preclearance provisions of Section 5.

The Supreme Court did this even though a bipartisan Congress in 2006 voted nearly unanimously to reauthorize Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act.

After hearing from more than 90 witnesses with a diverse range of views, holding 20 hearings, and evaluating a 15,000-page record, 98 Senators and 390 House members voted to re-authorize Sections 4(b) and 5 of the Voting Rights Act.

Within hours of the Supreme Court's *Shelby County* decision, the State of Texas, where in 2012 alone Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act blocked the state's discriminatory photo ID law and intentionally discriminatory redistricting plans, announced its intention to implement those measures immediately.

This is only one of many examples of formerly covered states taking advantage of the gap in Section 5 protection by reverting back to laws that the Voting Rights Act previously blocked.

The struggle to ensure that all Americans can participate equally in the political process continues.

And that is why I was proud to cosponsor and support H.R. 4, the Voting Rights Advancement Act, which corrects the damage done to the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and commits the national government to protecting the right of all Americans to vote free from discrimination and without injustices that previously prevented them from exercising this most fundamental right of citizenship.

IN RECOGNITION OF PROFESSOR
RONALD WOODS DISTINGUISHED
CAREER AT EASTERN MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Professor Ronald Woods

on his retirement and recognize his forty-three years of distinguished service at Eastern Michigan University (EMU). His contributions to our community have been many and deserve significant recognition.

In his decades of service as a teacher and mentor, Professor Ronald Woods has become a pillar of the EMU community. A former poverty law attorney, Ronald Woods started at EMU in 1976 as a lecturer in the Afro-American Studies Program, and later went on to become a professor and the first head of the African American Studies Program. In these capacities, Professor Woods provided valuable expertise on the intersection of race, public policy, and law. He shed light on the impact of social policy on our nation's schools and communities and published on a variety of different topics like African policy in the horn of Africa. In addition to his work as a professor and scholar, Professor Woods was highly regarded in serving as Director of the Institute for the Study of Children, Families, and Communities.

Today, we celebrate Professor Woods for his leadership and unrelenting dedication to his students, community, and academia. Throughout his tenure, Professor Woods mentored hundreds of students and was recognized for his professionalism, kind demeanor, and passion for educating our nation's future leaders. Beyond academics, Professor Woods's contributions included serving as interim president of the Michigan Council of Black Studies, a member of the Board of Directors of the African American Cultural and Historical Museum of Washtenaw County, and member of the Board of Directors of Wittenberg University, and even a member of the Board of the Ann Arbor Housing Commission, just to name a few of his many outstanding accomplishments. In addition, Professor Wood was paramount to the success of key community programs. As an early leader and the first coordinator of Washtenaw County My Brother's Keeper, Professor Woods empowered multiple generations to build community, change narratives, and improve outcomes for young men and boys of color in Washtenaw County. Professor Wood's years of service have impacted the lives of many, and his continued dedication provides a lasting example of what we should all endeavor to accomplish—to effect change, be compassionate leaders, and do all we can to make a difference in the world.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ronald Woods as he retires from Eastern Michigan University. We thank him for his decades of distinguished of service and leadership and wish him the best of luck in all future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO MEYMUNA HUSSEIN-CATTAN—28TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women. It is an honor to pay homage to out-

standing women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Meymuna Hussein-Cattan of the Echo Park neighborhood of Los Angeles, California.

Meymuna Hussein-Cattan is an executive, social entrepreneur and world traveler dedicated to shifting the narrative around refugees in the United States. Born in an Ethiopian refugee camp in Somalia, Ms. Hussein-Cattan's childhood gave her a first-hand view of the struggles of refugee children. In 1983, Meymuna's father moved to San Diego when he was resettled by the International Rescue Committee. Young Meymuna and her mother, Owliya Dima followed the next year.

Growing up with a passion for human rights and advocacy, Meymuna went on to receive her bachelor's degree in Social Sciences from the University of California, Irvine and a master's degree in Organizational Management from Antioch University. Hussein-Cattan wrote her Master's thesis about Tiyya, which proposed creating a nonprofit organization that supports refugees starting a new life in Southern California. Tiyya means "my love" in Oromo, which is one of the languages spoken in Ethiopia. Over the years, Tiyya has improved the lives of refugees in the greater Los Angeles area through the arts, education and recreational activities.

With generosity and public service as core principles and the help of her mother, Meymuna made it her mission to assist refugees to find stability and navigate the similar complex challenges that her family went through. As co-founder and CEO, Ms. Hussein-Cattan has played a vital role in Tiyya's successes over the past decade, which include impacting the lives of hundreds of people each year with a variety of programs. As funding sources dwindled, Meymuna expanded the organization's mission by launching Flavors from Afar, a program that helps refugees develop culinary careers in their new country and build connections within the neighborhood.

Apart from her work at Tiyya, Meymuna is committed to broadening her scope and reaching other advocates with her expertise. A speaker at many organizations and universities, she enjoys sharing her insights and experience to motivate and inspire the future wave of human rights activists. The Los Angeles refugee community has greatly benefited from the generosity and dedication of Meymuna Hussein-Cattan.

Meymuna and her husband, Shukry live with their daughter, Suraya in Echo Park.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring this exceptional, well-respected woman of California's 28th Congressional District, Meymuna Hussein-Cattan.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALMA S. ADAMS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

Ms. ADAMS. Madam Speaker, I was absent on March 3, 2020 due to my primary election. Had I been present, I would have voted: Roll Call No. 81—YEA, and Roll Call No. 82—YEA.