

workers who are in contact with patients, the public, or co-workers—including grocery store workers, health care workers, and first responders—with an additional \$13 per hour in premium pay on top of regular wages, up to \$10,000.

As more communities start to lift stay-at-home orders, all workers need access to paid family, medical, and sick leave benefits. The HEROES Act will help expand access to emergency paid sick leave and emergency paid family and medical leave by eliminating exemptions for health care workers, first responders, workers at businesses with fewer than 50 employees, and workers at businesses with 500 or more employees. And I will keep working with my colleagues to secure permanent paid sick leave and paid family and medical leave for all workers.

I started working at Legal Aid while I attended community college, and learned there that people do not struggle by choice. With our national economy upended, consumers face even greater financial hardships and predatory actors continue to take advantage of people facing this crisis. We should have implemented the strengthened consumer protections in the HEROES Act at the beginning of this crisis, and I have continued calls for their passage. I'm glad that the HEROES Act suspends consumer debt collection during the COVID-19 emergency and for 120 days after the end of the national emergency to make sure consumers can fully recover. I worked with the Congressional Progressive Caucus to make debt collection suspension a priority in relief legislation.

We know that Oregonians are struggling through no fault of their own, and they should not be further harmed financially. Negative credit reporting will be suspended under the HEROES Act for the duration of this crisis and any future national emergencies. This is an essential step to safeguard consumers most affected by the current outbreak. I have also continued to call for medical debt collection and credit reporting suspensions—needed reforms to prevent a hospital visit from destroying the credit of consumers. I am glad to see that medical debt related to coronavirus treatments will not result in adverse credit information; however, we must give consumers the flexibility to settle their medical debt before it shows up on a credit report and we must continue to fight so everyone can access affordable health care.

The HEROES Act also clarifies the intent of the CARES Act by preventing the garnishment, levy, or seizing of direct payment for private debts. I have been a vocal advocate for stopping unfair garnishment and protecting payments like Social Security and other essential earned benefits.

Oregon has strong laws to prevent unfair price hikes during crises like the current pandemic. I am continuing to work with Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum on ways to expand Oregon's protections to all Americans. It's beneficial that the HEROES Act includes provisions to stop unconscionably excessive prices on necessities like food, hygiene products, personal protective equipment, and health services.

Workforce boards, labor unions, community colleges, community-based organizations, small businesses, and other stakeholders are training health care, direct care, and front-line workers, but they are in desperate need of

more resources. I am pleased that the HEROES Act includes \$2.5 billion for adult education, youth training, dislocated worker grants, migrant and seasonal farmworker programs, and public health worker recruitment and training as authorized in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, but this funding is insufficient to meet the scale of the crisis at hand. For comparison, the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act provided more than \$7.7 billion in workforce funding. To respond to the economic consequences of the coronavirus pandemic, we need at least \$15.1 billion in supplemental federal investments to help prevent further layoffs and provide dislocated workers and employers with access to employment services like training, career navigation, and supportive services. I will keep working with my colleagues on the Education and Labor Committee to advance the Re-launching America's Workforce Act because the historic unemployment levels over the last two months require an equally historic response to support workers.

No one should be forced to choose between paying their bills and paying for food, but as Oregonians face the ongoing economic consequences of COVID-19, this is becoming a reality for too many working families. This bill includes \$175 billion to assist renters and homeowners make monthly rent, mortgage and utility payments, and other housing-related costs. The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is an important wraparound support that helps low-income families pay for heating and cooling bills. The HEROES Act includes another \$1.5 billion in supplemental funding for LIHEAP, but many more households will need and likely qualify for assistance in the coming weeks and months. Additionally, as individuals comply with stay-at-home orders across the country during the pandemic, they will likely be using more electricity and heat or air conditioning to keep their homes habitable. As we work to craft the next response package, I will keep fighting for more funding for LIHEAP to provide tangible assistance to families who are struggling to pay their bills. I also advocated for assistance similar to LIHEAP that would help households economically affected by COVID-19 with drinking water and wastewater services during this national emergency. The HEROES Act includes an additional \$1.5 billion for this support.

The success of our economic recovery will depend on the success of our small businesses. The Paycheck Protection Program was a good first lifeline for many, but many business owners are concerned about artificial timelines and a lack of flexibility in the program. I'm glad that the HEROES Act will extend the coverage period to the end of 2020 and give businesses additional flexibility while still adhering to local stay-at-home orders that may not allow them to fully open and resume operating for some time to come. The bill would also expand PPP eligibility to additional nonprofit organizations of all types and sizes, as well as provide an additional \$10 billion in economic injury disaster grants (EIDL) through the Small Business Administration.

Fisheries are an important part of our economy in Northwest Oregon, and I know that our coastal communities need more assistance to get through these challenging times. The HEROES Act provides an additional \$100 million in disaster funding, and I will keep working to

secure more direct assistance for fisheries and the domestic seafood supply chain. Northwest Oregon is known for its prestigious specialty crops, and our farmers have been struggling to make ends meet during the pandemic. The HEROES Act will also support our specialty crop farmers by providing \$100 million for specialty crop grants and \$50 million for support for local farmers markets and other direct to consumer markets.

This bill addresses one of the key shortcomings of previous legislative efforts; the exclusion of individuals from direct economic relief because of their immigration status. The HEROES Act retroactively extends direct payments to mixed-status families and immigrants who file taxes using ITINs, and it expands eligibility for other economic support. It removes barriers to testing, treatment, vaccines, and other health care based solely on immigration status and automatically extends work permits for individuals with DACA or TPS. The bill offers protections from ICE removal and employment authorization for individuals in critical industries, including agricultural workers and meatpackers. It also requires ICE to review its detention policies and find alternatives for individuals not subject to mandatory detention.

Importantly, the HEROES Act strengthens our democratic institutions with new resources to conduct secure, reliable elections using vote-by-mail. Oregonians have used this trusted method of voting for more than twenty years, and it should be implemented nationwide as a simple and safe solution that will increase access while allowing voters to maintain physical distancing measures.

We must act quickly and decisively to curb the spread of COVID-19 and create conditions that will allow us to begin our recovery, but we must also act boldly so our response is sufficient to prevent a widespread resurgence of the virus. We must also not leave behind any segment of our society as we work to repair the immense and harmful economic damage that we see across Oregon and the country. We are all safer and healthier when everyone in our communities is safer and healthier. I commend House leadership for putting forward a proposal that responsibly addresses the desperate need we are currently facing while also acknowledging the potentially disastrous costs of doing too little. I urge all my colleagues to support our nurses, first responders, grocery workers, and all frontline heroes by supporting this legislation.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF
JENNIE L. LANDOLFI

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2020

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Jennie L. Landolfi, 65, of Niles, Ohio, who passed away Friday, May 15, 2020, after a long and courageous battle with Multiple Sclerosis.

Jennie was born April 19, 1955, in Niles, the daughter of Gregory and Antonette "Toni" Landolfi.

Jennie was a 1973 graduate of John F. Kennedy High School, attended Kent State University, graduated from the Trumbull Memorial Hospital School of Nursing, and received a master's degree in adult health from

the University of Akron. Jennie had a passion for emergency medical services and worked for many years in the emergency departments of Trumbull Memorial Hospital and Warren General Hospital. She created the paramedic training program in Trumbull County and trained countless EMTs throughout Northeastern Ohio. A lifelong member of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church, Jennie loved her nephews, her dogs, vacations in the sun and the friends of her Red Hat Society and card clubs with whom she shared adventures and laughs.

She will be sadly missed by her brother, John and his wife, Chrissie of Columbus; and her three nephews, Johnny, Dante and Marco; as well as numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

My heartfelt condolences go out to Jennie's family, and all whose lives she so dearly touched. I thank Jennie for her tireless work taking care of the people in the Mahoning Valley.

CITIZEN SOLDIER HEROES

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2020

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, members of the South Carolina National Guard are heroes. During this challenging time, it is inspiring that South Carolina National Guard Service Members choose to serve the citizens of South Carolina. The National Guard continues to answer the call and assist communities affected by the Wuhan Virus. Here are six heroes in South Carolina.

Doctor (Col.) Phillip Latham is the state Air Surgeon for the South Carolina Air National Guard, serves as the South Carolina Air National Guard medical lead and COVID-19 medical response coordinator. His efforts and accomplishments positively impact South Carolina communities daily.

Colonel Latham liaises with the South Carolina Hospital Association. He assists statewide medical surge planning and weekly regional response coordination meetings. Additionally, Colonel Latham has coordinated a patient transportation response plan, enhanced resource acquisition allocation, and regional planning for Tier 1 and Tier 2 alternate care sites, as well as improve emergency ambulance response protocols. He also worked through the South Carolina Hospital Association and South Carolina Manufacturers Empowerment program for the creation of centralized ordering and distribution of protective personal equipment. Engineering support statewide alternate care site surveys, identified and planned for possible infrastructure expansion to meet needs in excess of current regional hospital capacity. Lastly, he coordinated phase 2 testing and contact tracing plans in concert with the South Carolina Hospital Association, South Carolina Emergency Management Division, Department of Health and Environmental Control and National Guard leadership for a roll out of both diagnostic and immunity testing across the state.

Doctor (Lt. Col.) Vanessa Wideman, is the 169th Medical Group, Flight Surgeon. Lieutenant Colonel Wideman advised South Carolina National Guard leadership on COVID-19 miti-

gation efforts, mapped out McEntire Joint National Guard Base's strategy and response for COVID-19, and advised 169th Fighter Wing leadership on Health Protection Condition (HPCON) levels. She continues to coordinate with the Center for Disease Control and Prevention to improve individualized member response to COVID-19 for potentially affected members.

Doctor (Lt. Col.) Fred Smith, is the 157th Fighter Squadron, Flight Surgeon. Lieutenant Colonel Smith's testing efforts helped map out hospital network efforts across South Carolina. He also observed and provided oversight for the South Carolina National Guard—civilian partnership, in food distribution, and receiving, at Harvest Hope food bank.

Lieutenant Colonel Paul Laymon is the 169th Security Forces Squadron Commander. Lieutenant Colonel Laymon has coordinated, organized, planned, staffed, and co-lead the development of the COVID-19 Joint Task Force—Security (C-JTFS). He also developed new Operating Instructions for safe and secure entry onto McEntire Joint National Guard Base and authored the National Guard's Adversary Threat Assessment to include concerns over weaponization of the Novel Virus COVID-19. Lastly, he coordinated with the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, and the South Carolina Joint Operations Center for the safe-secure delivery and redistribution of the CDC National Stockpile Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

Lieutenant Colonel Allen R. Stewart serves as the South Carolina National Guard Joint Force Headquarters Logistics Director. In this capacity, he's coordinated South Carolina National Guard support at Oliver Gospel mission, set up Blue Tent training between the Department of Health and Environmental Control and 59th Troop Command, and worked with the South Carolina National Guard to set up the Georgia Air National Guard's sanitizing "Train the Trainer" classes for the South Carolina National Guard. Furthermore, his efforts helped improve planning efforts and protective measures with the South Carolina Department of Corrections. Lieutenant Colonel Stewart also helped set up South Carolina's food distribution in Horry County and facilitated the South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicle's plan to use South Carolina National Guard armories across the state to enable social distancing between the public and DMV staff.

Second Lieutenant Trey Murphy is the Logistics Readiness Officer for the 169th Logistics Readiness Squadron. Second Lieutenant Murphy coordinated and hosted the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control Receipt, Store, and Stage (RSS) refresher training course, which showed how to manage distribution of Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) material. His efforts enabled his squadron to store over two-hundred pallets of personal protective equipment on more than fifty tactical convoys, serving all forty-six counties in South Carolina. He also coordinated the joint effort for the staging of US Army personnel and equipment in advance of civilian bus driver training conducted on McEntire Joint National Guard Base.

I am grateful to have worked with my colleagues in the 116th Congress to provide needed funding for vital personal protective equipment, material, and support for our Service Members and their families.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LENORA PRATHER

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2020

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the life and legacy of Mrs. Lenora Prather, a native of West Point, Mississippi and a pioneer in the field of law and justice in our state. Mrs. Prather dedicated her life to public service and cemented herself in our state's history, while continuing to have an impact on young minds.

Lenora Prather was born and educated in West Point, Mississippi, where she graduated from the Mississippi State College for Women before continuing her education at the University of Mississippi School of Law, earning her juris doctor in 1955. She practiced law with her father and later met fellow attorney Bob Prather. The two were married and began to practice law together until her appointment as Municipal Judge in West Point. Together they had three daughters. Among her many academic contributions, she taught in the Communication Department at Mississippi State University. In 1982, Prather was appointed as Chief Justice of the Mississippi Supreme Court. She attributed her success in her career to her parent's example. She served as a source of inspiration to countless individuals, and among her friends and family.

Mrs. Lenora Prather was a shining example of commitment to values, community, and justice. She had a lasting impact on this state, and her example will continue to inspire young minds. I commend her lifelong efforts in making Mississippi great.

RECOGNIZING STAFF AT CENTRAL ARKANSAS VETERANS HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2020

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Madam Speaker, today, I recognize the staff at Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System that volunteered to help their sister facility in Louisiana: Erin Pitchford, Diana Tran, Latoya Johnson, Tonya Filbert, Teri Kennedy, Vickie Mabry, Ellen Shollmier, Linda Tate, Joe Wood, Nicholas Asman, and Michelle Freck.

In April, three teams of Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System Registered Nurses, Advanced Practice Registered Nurses, and Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetics traveled to New Orleans to support the Southeast Louisiana Veterans Healthcare System.

These 11 front-line heroes provided support to their sister VA facility during the initial surge of COVID-19 in Louisiana. The staff provided direct patient care in critical areas of the facility, including medical and surgical units.

The purpose of this united effort was to ensure the well-being of our veterans who have served our country.

We thank the nurses who are deployed, all those who stepped in to fill their shoes back home, and CAVHS for their compassion, clinical expertise, and their commitment to serving our veterans.