

the Purple Heart for being wounded in combat.

The Navy Cross is the second-highest decoration for valor in combat in the Marines and U.S. Navy; fewer than 500 were awarded during the Vietnam War. Sam earned it in June 1969 by valiantly rescuing three wounded Marines during an 11-day battle near An Hoa, Quang Nam Province.

Fifty years later, in 2019, Sam was inducted into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame for his contributions to fellow veterans, the community, and our nation.

Sam owned a karate academy and billiard parlors and worked at U.S. Steel, but his heart and soul was in assisting fellow veterans. In 45 years of veteran advocacy, Sam supported fellow veterans as Commander and Life Member of the Disabled American Veterans Lorain Chapter 20; Ohio Chairman of the Advisory Committee of Valor Home (a nonprofit organization providing services for homeless veterans); delegate to the Lorain Veterans Council; member, First Marine Division Association; member, National Association of Black Veterans; co-founder and three time president of the Lorain Veterans Council and past commander of AMVETS. Sam received the 2006 Vietnam Service Multiple Medals Award, the Ohio Secretary of State's 2007 Outstanding Veterans Award and was named the Lorain Ohio Veteran of the Year in 2010.

In addition to dedicating himself to veterans, Sam advocated for the youth of Lorain County. He founded the Sam Felton Athletic Club and Youth Center, the Jackie Jones Felton Scholarship Fund for college-bound students, co-founded the Samuel Felton Jr. Community Development Program, and worked with kids and veterans interested in musical outreach.

In 2018, the Lorain City Council named a section of East 36th Street "Sgt. Samuel L. Felton Jr. Blvd." to honor Sam for his service to the City of Lorain and its people. For all these awards and acclamations Sam received, he will be remembered admirably by the thousands of people to whom he ministered by providing peer support to fellow veterans, getting them Veterans Affairs services, or even just driving veterans to their appointments. Truly, Sam was a national hero, and a hero of Lorain, Ohio.

We offer Sam Felton's family and friends our prayers and deepest hopes that they find comfort in the wonderful memories and lasting deeds of his precious life. May they find joy in understanding what his legacy meant to each person he touched and his deep dedication to building the people of Lorain forward.

CONGRATULATING ST. ANDREW
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL
2068

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 28, 2020

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I congratulate the St. Andrew Knights of Columbus Council 2068 on reaching its 100th anniversary. The council was founded on May 23, 1920 under the leadership of Grand Knight FJ Foley and chaplain William J. O'Callahan. For a century, the St. Andrew Knights of Columbus Council has

served its religious community and the Waynesboro region at large.

The council's community service includes participating in annual golf tournaments that benefit Waynesboro Human Services, sponsoring monthly "Bring Your Mug to Church" Sundays to foster fellowship among parishioners and support parish activities, as well as providing college scholarships to children of council members. Additionally, the council has participated in the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's Adopt-a-Highway program for more than 30 years.

The St. Andrew Knights of Columbus Council 2068 has made an indelible mark on the Waynesboro community. On behalf of the 13th Congressional District of Pennsylvania, I thank this organization for its steadfast commitment to our region and congratulate the council on reaching its 100th anniversary.

PROXY VOTING LAWSUIT

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 28, 2020

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I was grateful to be added as a plaintiff in the important lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of proxy voting initiated by Republican Leader KEVIN MCCARTHY, Whip STEVE SCALISE, and Conference Chair LIZ CHENEY. Congressman MORGAN GRIFFITH, a graduate of Washington and Lee University Law School, of Virginia presented the extraordinary legal arguments clearly documenting proxy voting as unconstitutional.

Allowing Congress to vote remotely is simply irresponsible. Although we are currently in a crisis, this Wuhan Virus pandemic is no excuse to forget our Constitution which clearly says that we have to have a majority of Members present for a quorum to do business.

If Congress was able to vote on the House Floor over these last few months without putting lives at risk, surely Members can conduct official business in a safe manner that follows guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control going forward. During the War of 1812, the Capitol Building itself was burned, but Congress members still met in Washington.

The constitutionality of this new rule must be questioned. Our constitution says that we must have a majority to vote and yet this new rule would allow a few to vote for all, that is simply not right. Many Americans are getting back to work as we recover from this Wuhan Virus pandemic, Congress should be no different.

GOOD SAMARITAN MENSTRUAL
PRODUCTS ACT AND PERIOD
POVERTY AWARENESS RESOLU-
TION

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 28, 2020

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce two pieces of legislation in recognition of this week being National Period Poverty Awareness Week, and today being Menstrual Hygiene Day.

Madam Speaker, more than half of the U.S. population will likely menstruate every month for decades of their lives. Unfortunately, studies have shown that 1 in 4 women and girls report that they struggle to afford menstrual products. This lack of menstrual products is often called "period poverty," and it can adversely affect a person's health and well-being. It is further heartbreaking that 1 in 5 women and girls report missing work or school due to a lack of access to menstrual products. Period poverty, in fact, is linked with self-perception and mental health. It also exacerbates the cycle of poverty by further marginalizing those who menstruate, causing them to withdraw from daily life, forego pay, or miss educational opportunities. It also impacts one's physical health, as the risk of infections increase with use of substitutes, such as paper towels or toilet paper, or because of an inability to change products as frequently as recommended.

This is unthinkable and simply wrong. Menstrual equity—one's equitable access to menstrual products—is not a luxury; it is a health right, and a human right.

Of course, this period poverty existed long before the COVID-19 pandemic; but today, with over 40 million Americans now out of work due to the pandemic, the socioeconomic and health challenges of individuals facing period poverty is further enhanced and heightened.

Madam Speaker, periods do not wait for pandemics. Ultimately, menstrual products are essential to the health and economic well-being of individuals in both overcoming and recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic.

My resolution raises awareness regarding period poverty. It also urges local, State, and Federal agencies to ensure free access to menstrual products for individuals in need during the COVID-19 response, including for essential frontline workers; students; low-income families; individuals experiencing homelessness; and incarcerated and detained individuals.

Additionally, to encourage greater donation and distribution of menstrual products to individuals who need such products, I introduced the Good Samaritan Menstrual Products Act. In times of tragedy and need, Americans have always come together in the spirit of generosity. But alas, due to certain menstrual products like tampons being considered "Class 2" medical products, such designations deter the donation of such products—out of fear of liability issues. As such, liability concerns, even for products donated in good faith, limit both the supply and availability of menstrual products, as well as individuals' choices in how their menstruation needs are met.

As such, my bill—the Good Samaritan Menstrual Products Act—would provide the liability protection for donated and distributed menstrual products that are given and received in good faith. As we strive to expand one's ability to access these products, my bill would support the generosity of those who donate and distribute these products.

Madam Speaker, as I continue to fight for menstrual equity for all, I urge my colleagues to support both pieces of legislation so we can end period poverty—once and for all.