

2016-2018. By the end of 2018, 465 tin, tantalum and tungsten and 106 gold mines have been validated green, which means that no signs of interference of armed groups or the Congolese army and no child labor have been found. These mines employ over 27,000 miners. As of September 29, 2020, 73 percent of smelters and refiners worldwide (236 out of 323 total) for the four conflict minerals have passed independent, third-party audits by the Responsible Minerals Assurance Process. This contrasts to an operating environment before the passage of Section 1502 when no certification mechanism existed for distinguishing mines conflict controlled by armed groups or the Congolese army from conflict-free mines.

That is why Congolese civil society groups have been outspoken in their support. In 2017, over 100 Congolese civil society organizations signed letters in support of Section 1502. Recently, Isaac Wikirevolo Mumbere, Human Rights officer at the Network for the Conservation and the Rehabilitation of Forest Ecosystems, commented: "Dodd-Frank [1502] is a law worth its weight in gold because it has helped pull Congolese army commanders and militias out of the mines. Likewise, it has prevented Congolese officials who had taken the artisanal mining sector as their own property from continuing to do so."

Several companies, including Tiffany & Co., Apple, Richline, and Intel, have publicly emphasized the importance of supply chain due diligence. In 2017, 129 Investors, representing over \$4.8 trillion in assets stated in a letter to the SEC, that the due diligence disclosures required by Section 1502 provide valuable information about how companies manage supply chain risks. The U.S. conflict mineral law was the first of its kind and has spurred international action. Many other countries have since then passed similar laws holding companies responsible for the impact for supply chains.

Opponents of the conflict minerals rule continue to use outdated information including statistics from before or right after the rule's implementation. Now, ten years after the passage of Section 1502 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and eight years after the implementation of the conflict minerals rule, we can make more accurate determinations about its success. Compliance costs were far lower than feared, and while challenges remain, data demonstrates a substantial reduction in the presence of armed groups in the mines.

We hope you will use an accurate portrait of the impact of Dodd Frank 1502 as you consider other legislative approaches that draw on this framework.

Sincerely,

IAN SCHWAB,
Director of Regional Policy
and Advocacy, The Sentry.
PAUL DONOWITZ,
Team Leader, Global Witness.

RECOGNIZING MAYOR SANDY SMITH OF MONROEVILLE

HON. BRADLEY BYRNE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 2020

Mr. BYRNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my thanks and appreciation to Mayor Sandy Smith for her years of service to the people of Monroeville and Monroe County. All the area's residents owe her a debt for her unwavering dedications over many years.

As the longtime Executive Director of the Monroeville/Monroe County Chamber of Commerce, Sandy was tireless in pursuing jobs and economic development opportunities for all the county's citizens.

Once elevated to mayor, Sandy's advocacy for Monroeville continued with the same professionalism, positivity, kindness, and inclusiveness everyone who knows Sandy would expect.

Throughout the years, Sandy has been instrumental in promoting Monroeville as the home of its native daughter, the beloved author Harper Lee, and making Monroeville the tourism center it is today. Truly, her heart is with Monroeville.

I wish Sandy, Rayford, their children, and their growing family all the best. I know God will continue to bless them all.

IN MEMORY OF EMILIO GUGLIELMELLI, JR.

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 2020

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of Emilio Guglielmelli, Jr. A valiant World War II veteran who was a deeply treasured member of the Walla Walla, Washington community.

Emilio was born and raised in Walla Walla, where he learned the values of hard work and the American dream on his family farm. After graduating from St. Vincent's Academy, he took the brave call to serve our country during one of the world's darkest times. After just 10 weeks of basic training in the United States Army infantry, Emilio was sent to the Philippine Islands. After the liberation, Emilio continued his service in Japan until 1946 when he was welcomed home to the family farm.

For the 50th Anniversary of the liberation, Emilio traveled back to the Philippines. He valued this trip to be one of the highlights of his life. Emilio was proud to be a WWII veteran. Like so many of his brothers and sisters of the Greatest Generation, he would have never called himself a hero but he was. Emilio lived a full life of courage, honor, and love of country.

Emilio and his wife Pauline S. Andreas raised a family full of several children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. Emilio was a well-known and active community member, serving on several community leadership boards and clubs. His Walla Walla sweet onions became a token best seller around town. Emilio was a talented drum player. He shared his love for music wherever he went.

Emilio's faith guided him in all that he did. His dedication to the Catholic Church was constant. Emilio frequently served as a lecture and volunteer for many St. Patrick Catholic Church masses and events. Because he shared his time and talents, he made the world around him a better place.

On behalf of a grateful nation and the United States House of Representatives, I rise to remember Emilio and his remarkable legacy of service to our nation. I pray for comfort and peace to all who mourn his passing. May we honor Emilio's legacy of service and sacrifice by continuing to honor him and all the members of the Greatest Generation. We must

never forget their sacrifices for keeping our freedom and the Promise of America alive.

EMPOWERING OLYMPIC, PARALYMPIC, AND AMATEUR ATHLETES ACT OF 2020

SPEECH OF

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I am glad that today the House is considering S. 2330, the Empowering Olympic, Paralympic, and Amateur Athletes Act, the Senate companion to legislation I introduced in the House along with Representatives JOHN CURTIS, DIANA DEGETTE, and SUSAN BROOKS. I am incredibly thankful for the courageous survivors who stepped forward and whose advocacy made this legislation possible, and to Senators JERRY MORAN and RICHARD BLUMENTHAL who authored this legislation.

In 2016, I was shocked and angered when more than 300 brave gymnasts, including some from my congressional district, began to come forward with claims of sexual abuse against Larry Nassar, who had been the USA Gymnastics team doctor and a Michigan State University faculty member.

I was similarly upset when only two years later, the Daily Breeze, a newspaper in my district, released the results of its investigation into USA Swimming. That investigation revealed, "a culture within American swimming where the sexual abuse of underage swimmers by their coaches and others in positions of power within the sport was commonplace and even accepted by top officials and coaches."

The widespread and longstanding nature of the abuse as well as the knowledge that many allegations of abuse were brushed under the table have laid bare the deep systemic failures of the organizations charged with protecting athletes. The exposure of these abuses has necessitated immediate and aggressive reform of the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee and the National Governing Bodies.

That is why I was proud to introduce H.R. 7881, the Empowering Olympic, Paralympic, and Amateur Athletes Act. This bipartisan legislation helped build broad support for the reforms in S. 2330 and ultimately usher them through the House of Representatives and onto the President's desk to become law.

Our legislation seeks to protect amateur athletes from emotional, physical, and sexual abuse in numerous ways. To strengthen accountability, it imposes legal liability for the USOPC and the NGBs when coaches or employees sexually abuse athletes. In addition, it establishes mechanisms to allow Congress to dissolve the entities if necessary. To empower athletes, the bill requires the establishment of clear procedures and reporting requirements, imposes clear responsibilities to protect athletes, and bolsters the Office of the Ombuds to give athletes an independent resource if they have been abused or assaulted. Finally, the bill strengthens and provides a steady funding stream for the U.S. Center for SafeSport, which provides abuse prevention education and training and investigates allegations of sexual abuse.