

Ms. Martinez also has a background in real estate and is still licensed with the State of California. She has dedicated her time for her community service as an usher with the La Mirada Performing Arts Center. In her retirement, she will be providing care for her extended family and traveling.

Please join me in wishing this good and faithful public servant a well-deserved retirement after a lifetime of serving others.

HONORING THE FOUNDING OF OSCEOLA COUNTY NAACP AND ITS CONTINUED EFFORTS TO ADVANCE CIVIL RIGHTS IN OSCEOLA COUNTY

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, founded in 1909 in response to the ongoing violence against Black people around the country, the NAACP is the largest and most pre-eminent civil rights organization in the nation. One hundred and twelve years later, the organization has over 2,200 branches across the nation with more than 2 million members.

The NAACP's mission is to secure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights to eliminate race-based discrimination and ensure the health and well-being of all persons. The NAACP is integral to ensure a society in which all individuals have equal rights without discrimination on race.

The Osceola branch of the NAACP was originally established as the Kissimmee NAACP in 1965 and later changed to its current name in the early 1970's as the Osceola County Branch 5121. Reverend T.C. Callahan served as the branch's first president. The branch is currently led by Deloris McMillon.

The Osceola branch of the NAACP works to promote civic engagement among its community through voter registration drives. It also recognizes outstanding citizens and leaders to inspire younger generations to participate in their community.

The strength of the NAACP is dependent on support from the community. The NAACP seeks enactment and enforcement of federal, state, and local laws securing civil rights. It tirelessly provides for and supports their communities and equality of all citizens.

IN RECOGNITION OF BRAD RICHARDSON

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Brad Richardson for his 10 years of service as the President and CEO of the Hardin County Chamber of Commerce.

Since 2011, he has worked in his leadership role to promote economic development, advance businesses, and grow the local economy in Hardin County. Brad played a fundamental role in establishing the Knox Regional Development Alliance (KRDA), and in 2017, he was given the Ft. Knox Gold Neighbor

Award for his work in bringing together Fort Knox and nearby communities. He also invested in the next generation of local talent through the Youth Leadership Hardin County and Leadership Hardin County programs.

I want to thank Brad for his work in the Hardin County community.

SUPPORTING TEXAS AFTER WINTER STORM DAMAGE

HON. SYLVIA R. GARCIA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask for continued support of my district, my city and my state, as we recover from the impact of the winter storm. Many Texans are still suffering.

Even worse, many are still grieving the loss of a loved one. In Harris county alone, 25 human lives were lost as a consequence of this storm.

Senior citizens account for more than one third of the deaths in Harris County.

One woman, 100 years old, was taken to a hospital after being found unresponsive in a home with no power.

The youngest victim was just 8, he was found in a home while using a gas-powered generator, dying of carbon monoxide poisoning.

The damage extends far beyond the city of Houston. Over 200 Texans died. Thousands lost their homes, and 390 thousand still lack access to clean water.

I ask my colleagues, and those watching, that they continue to pray for the people of Texas, and that they help in any way they can.

For those who have already helped I thank you. Thank you very much (Muchisimas gracias).

REMEMERING APOSTLE FREDERICK K.C. PRICE

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Apostle Frederick K.C. Price of Los Angeles, California, who died on February 12, 2021 at the age of 89.

Apostle Frederick K.C. Price is the founder of Crenshaw Christian Center (CCC) in Los Angeles, California. He began CCC in 1973 and shepherded it into a ministry of world renown, with services held in the 10,000-seat FaithDome.

In 1978, Apostle Price received instruction from God to begin a television broadcast and, as a result, Ever Increasing Faith Ministries (EIFM) began broadcasting in five major television markets. Thus, the television broadcast soon after became global.

EIFM can be viewed on many television stations in all 50 states and in many foreign countries. Apostle Price is also heard on numerous radio programs and 19 Internet broadcast stations. Additionally, he can be seen on most social media platforms, including

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, Pinterest, and others. In 1990, Apostle Price founded the Fellowship of Inner-City Word of Faith Ministries (FICWFM), which later became the Fellowship of International Christian Word of Faith Ministries before disbanding in 2017. And in 2001, he established an East Coast church, Crenshaw Christian Center East.

A visionary and prolific author, Apostle Price is the author of some 50 books on faith, healing, prosperity, and the Holy Spirit. How Faith Works is a classic on the operation of faith and its life-changing principles.

Although he had already operated in the fivefold ministry gift of apostle, in 2008 Apostle Price was publicly affirmed as an apostle of faith. Under the mantle of the teaching gift, Apostle Price established several schools for ministry and formal education at CCC. Among them are Frederick K.C. Price III Christian Schools (preschool to 12th grade); the Ministry Training Institute in 1985; a CCC Correspondence School; the Frederick K.C. Price School of the Bible; and in 2008, the Apostle Price Ministry Training Center. Over the years, Apostle Price has received many prestigious awards, most notably the Horatio Alger Award and the Kelly Miller Smith Interfaith Award.

A year after his affirmation and after more than 35 years of service, Apostle Price stepped aside as pastor to formally install his son, Frederick K. Price Jr., as his successor. For years he served as the presiding prelate of both CCC West and CCC East and as the chairman of CCC's board of directors.

A devout husband and proud father, Apostle Price is survived by his wife of 67 years, Dr. Betty Price, four children, ten grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

I am proud to call myself a friend of the Price family, and I extend my deepest condolences to them and to the countless lives touched by the life and work of Apostle Frederick K.C. Price.

FOR THE PEOPLE ACT OF 2021

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2021

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, the precious right to vote in free and fair elections at all levels in the United States will be seriously jeopardized if H.R. 1 becomes law.

Under an egregiously false facade of reform, the legislation consolidates and conveys new sweeping powers to regulate elections to bureaucrats in the federal government and nullifies existing state laws requiring valid identification before either registering to vote or casting a ballot.

More than two-thirds of states currently rely on voter ID laws to protect the sanctity of the vote. Weakening—even prohibiting—certain safeguards against fraud will make our elections less secure, more vulnerable to fraudulent activity, and will undermine participation in our democracy.

Other safeguards designed to mitigate voter fraud are also abolished, including bans on ballot harvesting.

All states will be required to enable the practice of same day registration and voting

which precludes any serious process at the local level to verify the eligibility of the applicant to vote.

By making it illegal to scrutinize voter rolls with an interstate cross-check and by refusing any cross-check removals from the voter rolls within six months of an election, officials will be stymied in their duty to remove illegal and ineligible voters.

H.R. 1 is embedded with free speech infringements that even the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) has harshly criticized saying it “contains significant flaws that are detrimental to the health of our democracy.”

H.R. 1 politicizes the FEC by turning the current bipartisan commission into a partisan entity and expands the powers of the FEC chair, effectively destroying the agency’s ability to ensure fair elections by leaving important decisions on what is acceptable speech to a single individual.

And by allowing the IRS to investigate and consider political views of an organization before granting tax-exempt status, this legislation empowers federal bureaucrats—with agendas—to decide which views should be rewarded or penalized.

The bill also mandates states to give the right to vote to all felons who have been released from prison. Yesterday, the Democrats tried—but failed—to go further with an amendment to expand voting rights to criminals currently serving time in jail.

H.R. 1 creates a 6 to 1 funding match for contributions of \$200 or less to a congressional or presidential campaign—meaning for every \$200, the federal government will match \$1,200.

The Congress can—and must—do better.

FOR THE PEOPLE ACT OF 2021

SPEECH OF

HON. SUSAN WILD

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2021

Ms. WILD. Madam Speaker, I represent a Congressional district with nearly equal numbers of Democrats, Republicans, and Independents. But when it comes to the question of whether everyday Americans’ interests are reflected in their government, I hear the same message from my constituents, almost unanimously.

Regardless of political affiliation, my constituents seem to agree that dark money is drowning out the voices of working families. And they are outraged that lobbyists for the most powerful interests have a degree of access to our political system that is unheard of for an everyday citizen.

H.R. 1, the For the People Act, would begin the work of returning power to the American people. Among many important provisions, it would implement landmark anti-corruption reforms, including: requiring super PACS and dark money groups to disclose their donors, strengthening “conflict of interest” requirements for federal officials, and preventing members of Congress from serving on corporate boards. I’m also proud to have introduced the Lobbyist Loophole Closure Act as part of H.R. 1, which will enact more robust regulations around what constitutes lobbying and ensure no one can skirt federal lobbying rules.

Together, let’s restore the trust of the American people in their government.

FOR THE PEOPLE ACT OF 2021

SPEECH OF

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2021

Mr. CARSON. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support for H.R. 1, the For the People Act, and am proud to be a cosponsor of this bill. It will fight big money in politics, take on the power of special interests, end dark money, and ensure public officials are working in the public interest. It will expand voting rights to ensure we have secure, accurate elections and stop voter suppression efforts designed to keep people from voting based on their perceived political preferences. It ends extreme partisan gerrymandering by creating a non-partisan, open process to draw transparent and fair congressional district maps. This bill will also hold elected officials accountable by implementing tougher ethics laws to ensure elected officials are held accountable.

I am also proud to cosponsor an important amendment to this bill with my colleague Congresswoman SPEIER. Our amendment extends the statute of limitations on campaign finance violations. As a former law enforcement officer, I know that extending the statute of limitations is necessary to improve accountability and ensure that those who break campaign finance laws and then try to hide their actions can be brought to justice. As we have learned in recent events, violations of campaign finance laws may not be uncovered until years after the fact. Extending the statute of limitations provides investigators and prosecutors the ability to go after those who break the law. This is an important addition to H.R. 1, the For the People Act.

However, there is one provision in the bill that I believe could be improved, and I look forward to working with Chairwoman LOFGREN to make improvements. I was just recently made aware of concerns about voting machines that will need to be updated or redesigned after enactment of H.R. 1, including some equipment like Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) voting machines. I would like to make sure that we don’t exclude machines that are currently approved by the Election Assistance Commission without providing reasonable time and assistance to bring these machines into compliance with the new, higher standards of H.R. 1. In my home state of Indiana, many counties rely on DRE machines, and transitioning to the higher standards will require time and resources that I hope we can provide. Also, I have learned that the disability community has concerns about these provisions, so I would like to include in the RECORD a statement describing their concerns. I am committed to working with my colleagues to address these concerns so we can make voting more accessible for everyone.

DISABILITY COMMUNITY FEARS PAPER BALLOT MANDATE WILL HURT VOTERS WITH DISABILITIES

[Jan. 29, 2021]

WASHINGTON, DC.—Today, the undersigned disability organizations issued the following joint statement expressing concerns over a paper ballot mandate.

How ballots are cast in the United States varies depending on what different jurisdictions offer to their voters. Today, most voters in the U.S. cast their ballot by marking a paper ballot by hand or by Ballot-Marking Device (BMD), with some use of Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) voting machines.

Most American voters are familiar with the former, which requires voters to mark, verify and cast a paper-based ballot. BMDs use an electronic interface to aid voters in marking their ballot. Once the voter has made selections with the BMD, the device directly marks on or prints the ballot. The voter then typically verifies and casts the ballot into the same optical (or digital) voting scanner that hand marked paper ballots are cast. BMDs simply increase the accessibility of paper ballots by allowing voters with disabilities to use these accessible voting machines to magnify, ‘voice,’ and mark their ballots. For example, a blind voter cannot privately and independently mark a paper ballot with a pen, however, they can privately and independently mark their ballot using a BMD.

DRE voting systems, on the other hand, allow voters to use an electronic interface to mark, verify and cast their votes electronically with or without a paper back up. Arguably, DREs provide the best option for voting privately and independently for all voters with all types of access needs based on age, disability, language fluency, literacy, and many other individual circumstances, as guaranteed to all voters by the Help America Vote Act and Americans with Disabilities Act. DREs eliminate the need to handle or directly verify a paper ballot, which prevents BMD voting systems from being fully accessible to all eligible voters.

Despite overall reduced paper consumption in many areas of daily life, as a result of technological advancement, paper-based ballot voting options have become the preferred voting system to many who believe mandating the use of paper ballots is necessary to ensure the security of our elections. However, it must be made abundantly clear, that the ability to privately and independently hand mark, verify, and cast a paper ballot is simply not, and will never be, an option for all voters.

Given that paper ballots are already the predominant method of casting a ballot in America today, mandating paper ballots is frankly unnecessary. Additionally, any mandate of a paper-based voting system will inevitably harm voters with disabilities. A paper ballot mandate would: 1.) end all voting system innovation and advancement to produce a fully accessible voting system that provides enhanced security without relying on inaccessible paper; 2.) limit voters with disabilities’ federal right to privately and independently verify and cast their ballots and; 3.) ultimately segregate voters with disabilities.

Further, any paper ballot mandate that entitles voters to a hand marked ballot threatens the availability of BMDs for voters who rely on them to mark their ballots and drastically limits use of BMDs to voters with disabilities. This would result in segregating voters with disabilities away from the entire pool of voters by making them the only group of people that use a particular type of voting machine. Federally mandated segregation is problematic alone, but in practice, it also increases the likelihood that poll workers will not be properly trained on the machine, the machines will not be properly maintained or set up for use, and if the only available BMD is not functioning, there is no alternative option for voters who need it. Limits on BMD use will also saddle poll workers with determining who is “disabled enough” to use the BMD, a decision for