

region's art and culture landscape. As a lifelong supporter of the theater community, Nancy worked tirelessly to advocate for the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art. She was an outstanding artist, actress, and musician who used her talents to bless others.

A lifelong Blair County resident, Nancy was born on July 9, 1935 in East Freedom and attended Altoona High School, where she was elected president of her class and graduated in 1953. She was a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother whose compassion and care for her family was evident to everyone she met. In addition to her artistic pursuits, Nancy served the Altoona community as a member of the Blair County Historical Society. We also shared a love of gardening.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, it is my privilege to celebrate the life of Nancy Hicks Sheetz and honor her legacy. She leaves a profound void in the community that I share alongside all who knew her. As we remember Nancy for her many contributions to Blair County and our commonwealth, I extend my deepest condolences to the Sheetz family.

IN HONOR OF THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE AND LEGACY OF
REVEREND ROY L. FERGUSON

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Ms. SEWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Reverend Roy L. Ferguson, a beloved pastor and active community leader who passed away at the age of 76 on April 15, 2021. In 1983, Rev. Ferguson was elected Pastor of Saint John Baptist Church in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, where he served his congregation valiantly for 38 years. Demonstrating a continued dedication to public service, Rev. Ferguson contributed to the lives of many through mentorship and ministry, lifting spirits and soothing troubled souls.

Born on July 16, 1945, in Pickensville, Alabama, Rev. Ferguson graduated from Mississippi Valley College, where he studied physical education. He continued his education attending Birmingham Bible College and Samford University. In 1978, Rev. Ferguson answered the call to ministry under the leadership of Dr. J.C. Curry, Pastor of Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church in Flint, Michigan. Shortly after, Rev. Ferguson's employer transferred him to Tuscaloosa, where he began his tenure as an associate minister at Saint John Baptist Church in 1982. He married Coleen Hudson, and together they had seven children.

Rev. Ferguson was a dedicated public servant who contributed to the progression of Civil and Human Rights through his positions as a board member of the State Southern Christian Leadership Conference, President Emeritus of the Tuscaloosa County Chapter Southern Christian Conference, and President of Tuscaloosa Ministerial Alliance. Expanding his influence outside of ministry, Rev. Ferguson gave back to the Tuscaloosa community by acting as a mentor in the Stars Program at Tuscaloosa City Schools and Tuscaloosa Juvenile Detention Center. He lived his life by example, encouraging the members of his community

and congregation to live up to their full potential in Christ.

Throughout his life, Rev. Ferguson prioritized the importance of teaching the next generation about Black history. He believed that if we are to truly bring about change in this Nation, it is our responsibility to preserve the legacy of those on whose shoulders we stand.

On a personal note, I am eternally grateful for the support, friendship, and wise counsel that Rev. Ferguson and his dedicated wife Coleen always extend to me. The amazing congregation of St. John Baptist Church was a special refuge to my staff and I and will always be a comforting source of love and support. I am forever indebted to Rev. Ferguson for representing Alabama's 7th Congressional District at the National Day of Prayer in Washington, D.C. I could always count on Rev. Ferguson to extend his ministry for the good of our community. I was constantly reminded by the example that Rev. Ferguson set on how to extend favor and fulfillment to others. May we find comfort in knowing that the legacy of Rev. Ferguson will live in the many people that he touched. Let us be renewed by his giving spirit to make a difference in our communities. Rest In Peace.

On behalf of Alabama's 7th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the extraordinary life and legacy of Reverend Roy L. Ferguson and his outstanding contributions to the Tuscaloosa community.

SHARK FIN SALES ELIMINATION
ACT OF 2021

**HON. GREGORIO KILI CAMACHO
SABLAN**

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Speaker, on Earth Day 2021, together with Rep. McCAUL and 103 other original cosponsors, I am reintroducing the Shark Fin Sales Elimination Act.

The Act bans the buying and selling of shark fins in the United States and passed in the 116th Congress with bipartisan support and, ultimately, 287 cosponsors. It was the largest number of cosponsors for any ocean conservation bill in the previous Congress.

The Shark Fin Sales Elimination Act has such strong bipartisan support, because it is an effective way to remove the United States from the devastating global trade in shark fins, at no cost. And because it does so without stopping those who want to fish for sharks and use them whole.

Madam Speaker, sharks are absolutely critical to life in the ocean. As apex predators, they help maintain balance by keeping prey populations in check. They are also critical to the tourism economy of our coastal communities. In Florida alone, tourists, who go diving to see sharks, generate more than 200 times the value of the trade in shark fins for our entire country.

Despite their importance ecologically and economically, sharks are in serious trouble. Each year, fins from up to 73 million sharks are sliced off and sold in the global marketplace. And, largely due to this demand for fins, some shark species have now declined by more than 90 percent.

Our nation has wisely banned the inhumane practice of finning sharks and throwing them back into the ocean to die. Yet, we still allow fins to be bought and sold here. And many of the fins we are buying and selling come from countries that simply do not have the same level of protection the U.S. gives sharks.

Now is time for us to take that next step. Only by banning the shark fin trade once and for all within our borders can we ensure we are no longer supporting an unsustainable use of ocean resources.

Recognizing this unsustainability, the Northern Mariana Islands, my home, was the very first U.S. insular area to ban the trade of shark fins in 2011. As an island culture 3,000 years old, the people of the Marianas understand and respect the important role that sharks play in maintaining the life of our oceans.

We are not alone. Thirteen U.S. states and three territories have also passed their own shark fin bans. But this patchwork of state laws can be challenging to enforce. That is why we need a federal ban on the shark fin trade in the United States.

A ban on the shark fin trade is supported by 45 domestic and international airlines, by 22 shipping companies, 15 major corporations, and nearly 700 U.S. businesses and organizations. A 2020 national poll found 4 of 5 American voters support a national ban on the buying and selling of shark fins. Hundreds of scientists, chefs, fishers, and dive and surf businesses have written to Congress requesting passage of a national shark fin ban.

I want, especially, to thank Oceana, the Humane Society Legislative Fund, and the Animal Welfare Institute for those environmental organizations' work to build legislative support for the Shark Fin Sales Elimination Act.

I look forward to quick action in the House on the Shark Fin Sales Elimination Act of 2021.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I was unable to be present during roll call vote number 130. I would like to reflect how I would have voted.

On roll call vote number 130, I would have voted YES.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I was unable to be present.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 99; YEA on Roll Call No. 100; YEA on Roll Call No. 101; NAY on Roll Call No. 102; and NAY on Roll Call No. 103.