

advancing science and technology at Noblis and in support of Noblis' federal government clients as well as advancing the public-private partnership with the Commonwealth of Virginia, in 2011 Dr. Miller received the CTO Innovator Award from the Northern Virginia Technology Council.

But more than his extensive list of professional accomplishments, Dr. Miller was a loving husband, a caring father and a devoted grandfather. His greatest joy was in spending time with his family. We extend our deepest sympathies to Gil's wife, Dot, and three children Ryan, Matthew, and Kristen, his grandchildren, and the entire Miller family. We hope that they can take comfort in the love they share and the knowledge that they do not walk alone in their grief. We have lost Gil far too soon, but his legacy lives on. Thank you for sharing him and his talents with us. We are forever grateful.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 2967 THE VOTING RIGHTS ADVANCEMENT ACT

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2015

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 2967 the Voting Rights Advancement Act and to recognize today as Restoration Tuesday.

Our sacred right to vote has come under attack in numerous states across the country in the aftermath of the Supreme Court's ruling in *Shelby County v. Holder*. Many states, including my home state of Alabama, have enacted pernicious and burdensome voter ID laws that have the practical effect of restricting access to the polls for low income and minority voters.

Recently, Alabama closed 31 DMVs, leaving 29 Alabama counties without a DMV. Fifteen of those counties are located in rural Black Belt communities. Driver's licenses are the most popular form of photo identification used to vote. The heart of the problem lies with access. How can Alabama require a photo ID to vote, and then limit access to the most popular form of ID used? It is unconscionable that my constituents will be denied their constitutionally protected right to vote because they do not have access to a valid photo ID.

Despite the Governor's recent decision to reopen these DMVs once a month, critical access to these commonly used forms of photo IDs is still an issue for far too many minorities, senior citizens, and those living in rural communities. The reality is that opening these offices for once a month provides only bare minimum access, and that is unacceptable. Had the preclearance requirements of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 still been in place, Alabama's decision to close these DMVs would have likely had to have been reviewed by the Department of Justice.

In Alabama, the DMV closures occurred under the guise of budgetary concerns. Any budgetary savings are far outweighed by the discriminatory impact these closures will have on my constituents' ability to access the polls. But these types of discriminatory decisions are not exclusive to Alabama. These DMV closures are indicative of a broader and systematic effort that threatens to undermine our most basic right as Americans—the right to vote.

Protecting the right to vote for all Americans, especially those traditionally excluded from the democratic process should be top priority for us all. Every eligible voter must be allowed to cast his or her ballot unhindered by laws that deter participation in our democracy.

As Members of Congress, we must speak up for the voices of the excluded. If we do not act then we risk silencing these voices forever. We must fight to restore the critical protections of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that were struck down in the *Shelby vs Holder* case. Now is the time to restore the vote.

CONGRATULATING THE ELDON HIGH SCHOOL CHEERLEADING SQUAD FOR THEIR 2015 MISSOURI CHEERLEADING COACHES ASSOCIATION CLASS 3 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Eldon Mustangs for their first place win in the 2015 Missouri Cheerleading Coaches Association Class 3, Large Division, State Championship.

This cheerleading squad and their coach should be commended for all of their hard work throughout this past year and for bringing home this first place state championship to their school and community.

I ask you to join me in recognizing the Eldon Mustangs for a job well done.

IN OBSERVANCE OF NATIONAL IBD AWARENESS WEEK

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2015

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in observance of National IBD Awareness Week, which brings attention to over 1.6 million Americans affected by Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, collectively known as inflammatory bowel disease, or IBD.

These disorders impact the gastrointestinal tract, the area of the body where digestion takes place. They cause inflammation of the intestine, which leads to ongoing symptoms and complications. There is currently no known cause or cure for IBD, and individuals with IBD may suffer from various symptoms from mild to severe abdominal pain, diarrhea, fever, and intestinal bleeding. The impacts are devastating to both patients and their families.

Unfortunately, IBD can affect anyone, though it is most commonly diagnosed in adolescents and young adults between 15 and 25 years old. And though we still do not have all the answers, there is hope. An increasing number of genes have been identified—over 100 today—that may cause an increase in the risk of developing IBD, confirming that IBD has a strong genetic component. With these discoveries and new technological advances, researchers are working furiously to find cures. Despite this, the unpredictable nature of

these painful and debilitating digestive diseases creates a significant burden on the community and economy. Every year, there is more than \$1.26 billion in direct and indirect costs to the United States healthcare system due to surgeries and hospitalizations as a result of IBD complications.

This week, patient advocates from the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America (CCFA) are marching on Washington to meet with their Representatives and ask them to be a part of the movement and join the bipartisan Crohn's and Colitis Congressional Caucus. I would like to extend a warm welcome to Mr. Michael Osso, as CCFA celebrates the foundation's newest President and CEO. Mr. Osso is taking over from recently retired Mr. Richard Geswell, who in his turn has dedicated 10 years of remarkable leadership and service for patients with IBD. I am confident that Mr. Osso will continue Mr. Geswell's legacy of remarkable vision and drive on the journey forward towards a cure.

As co-chair of the bipartisan Crohn's and Colitis Congressional Caucus, a group of dedicated Members educating the public and other Members of Congress on IBD, I am grateful for the opportunity to raise awareness for IBD as well as improve patients' access to treatments. Let us use this week, IBD Awareness Week, as a call to action for all Americans. Together, with the help of researchers, educators, medical professionals, patients, and families, we can find a cure and end this devastating disease for millions of people around the world. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate CCFA on their efforts to bring awareness to this awful disease and I urge my colleagues to recognize Crohn's and Colitis Awareness Week as a way to build upon our efforts for the IBD patient community and to join the Crohn's and Colitis Congressional Caucus.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF GENERAL JOHN ROGERS GALVIN

HON. SETH MOULTON

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2015

Mr. MOULTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of General John Rogers Galvin, who died on September 25 of this year at the age of 86.

Born in Wakefield, Massachusetts, General Galvin committed his life and career to defending and serving our country. As a child, he created the Pleasant Street Army to protect his neighborhood during World War II, served four years as an enlisted soldier in the Massachusetts Army National Guard, graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1954, and served two tours in Vietnam as a brigade operations officer and battalion commander.

General Galvin's forty-four year military career culminated in his service as the Supreme Allied Commander in Chief of U.S. European Command and NATO Commander in 1987 during the collapse of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War. During his tenure, General Galvin confronted the breakup of Yugoslavia, provided vital protection to Kurds in northern Iraq during the regime of Saddam Hussein, and transitioned NATO's military strategy from large-scale containment to