Today, we are ALL CAPS. And that is just the way it is.

HONORING KE AU HAWAII, THE YEAR OF THE HAWAIIAN

HON. COLLEEN HANABUSA
OF HAWAII
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2018

Ms. HANABUSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Ke Au Hawaii, the Year of the Hawaiian, which honors Hawaii’s indigenous people and their culture, history, and accomplishments. Fittingly, yesterday we celebrated Kamehameha Day, a Hawaii state holiday honoring the Native Hawaiian monarch who first united the Hawaiian Islands under one rule.

Native Hawaiians are the original settlers of the Hawaiian Islands. Over a millennium, Native Hawaiians cultivated a rich culture and language that reflects the close relationship they had with their land. However, following European contact, Native Hawaiians endured a multitude of hardships that resulted in significant population and cultural declines. The effects of these declines continue through today, with Native Hawaiians overrepresented in rates of homelessness, incarceration, drug use, health disparities, and many other social ills.

One such hardship came in the form of an 1896 Republic of Hawaii-era law, which banned the teaching of ‘ōlelo Hawaii, the Hawaiian language, in both public and private schools. Over the subsequent half-century, this law severely diminished the percentage of Hawaii’s population that could speak and understand ‘ōlelo Hawaii. It was not until 1978 that Hawaiian was established as a co-official language of the State of Hawaii. Since then, the establishment of Hawaiian language immersion programs from pre-school through the college level has served as a critical incubator for language revitalization. These efforts have led to more than 20,000 fluent speakers of ‘ōlelo Hawaii today.

At the turn of the century, prominent Native Hawaiian leaders took substantial steps to address the clear decline of an entire people. Prince Jonah Kūhiō Kalanianaʻole, the Territory of Hawaii’s at-large congressional delegate from 1903 to 1922, authored the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, which was passed by Congress in 1921 and continues to provide homesteads for Native Hawaiians. The purpose of the Hawaiian Homelands is to support the self-sufficiency and community-based development of the Native Hawaiian people and the preservation of their traditions, culture, and quality of life.

At the state level, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) was created in 1978. OHA has evolved into an entity that perpetuates Native Hawaiian culture and advocates for Native Hawaiian interests, providing community-building forums, loan assistance, scholarships, and many other vital opportunities to the Native Hawaiian people.

The decades-long struggle for recognition and rejuvenation culminated in the Apology Resolution, signed by President Clinton on September 19, 1993, that resolution formally apologized for the United States’ role in the illegal overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii in 1893. The sponsor of that resolution was the late Senator Daniel Kaka’ako Akaka, the first and only United States Senator of Native Hawaiian ancestry. He was an unwavering advocate for his people over his 36 years in Congress. Senator Akaka sadly passed away this April, but his legacy of advocacy on behalf of his people lives on.

This year, as we mark the Year of the Hawaiian, we must remember to appreciate and affirm the vibrant contributions of Native Hawaiians to the multicultural fabric that is the United States of America. We look to the next generation of Native Hawaiian leaders to continue the important work of improving the lives of the Native Hawaiian people and advancing their strength in their homeland. Significant progress has been achieved in empowering and rejuvenating the Native Hawaiian people due to their resilience, persistence, and, above all, aloha. Theirs is a history and culture that have much to share and from which we have much to learn.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in celebrating the Native Hawaiian people and their contributions to our country.

IN RECOGNITION OF RORY GAMBLE FOR HIS LEADERSHIP AS DIRECTOR OF UAW REGION 1A

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2018

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rory Gamble for his work as director of the United Automotive Workers (UAW) Region 1A. Mr. Gamble has effectively served the working men and women of southeast Michigan through his leadership and efforts.

Mr. Gamble began his career with the UAW in 1974 after joining the Ford Motor Dearborn Frame Plant as a weld fixture repairman. The following year, he was elected to the position of plant trustee and has since served a wide variety of assignments in the UAW throughout his career. These include membership on the UAW-Ford national Negotiating Team, as well as prominent roles in UAW Local 600, which currently represents 27,000 active and retired members with over 40 autonomous bargaining units in southeast Michigan. Since June 2006, Mr. Gamble has been elected to three four-year terms as director of UAW Region 1A, which covers approximately 150,000 active and retired members from the Big Three automakers, health care facility employees, and many other workplaces.

Mr. Gamble’s efforts on behalf of the workers UAW represents have been critical to helping them secure the pay and benefits that they have earned. Because of his leadership, the UAW has been able to navigate a challenging political and economic environment while ensuring that the working men and women of southeast Michigan received pay and benefits commensurate with the important work they perform. Additionally, Mr. Gamble is active in the community, serving on numerous local organizations and boards, including Bridging Communities, which connects students with South- west Detroit businesses, labor organizations, churches and residents, as well as founding a food program for at-risk children in area public schools. As a result of his efforts, Mr. Gamble has received widespread acclaim, including receiving the 1999 Spirit of Detroit Award as well as the 2006 Horace L. Sheffield Jr. Humanitarian Award for these and other activities in the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Rory Gamble for his leadership with the UAW and in the southeast Michigan community. Mr. Gamble’s career and efforts have been critical to the well-being of Michigan’s working men and women.

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th birthday of Hilda Holley, a beloved woman who was born on May 14, 1918 in Oxford, Alabama, the fourth of 13 siblings. She and two other siblings are the only ones still living today.

She married her late husband Ernest Holley in 1940. Hilda worked at Anniston Army Depot and on February 26, 1951, she gave birth to her son, Ernie and Hilda became a stay at home mother.

Ernie was born with Down’s Syndrome, and Hilda has devoted her life to taking care of her son. Hilda attributes her long life to eating a healthy diet and onions every day. Besides caring for Ernie, Hilda spends her time reading her Bible, praying and completing crossword puzzles.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in wishing Hilda Holley a very happy 100th birthday.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 6067 ROCHEKNOV ANTI-DOPING ACT (RADA ACT)

HON. MIKE ROGERS
OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2018

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. 6067, the bipartisan Rodchenkov Anti-Doping Act (“RADA”) because in the realm of international sports, it has become almost commonplace for too many athletes to yield to the temptation of bridging the gap between their own skill and the pinnacle of athletic achievement by resorting to performance enhancing drugs.

And to conceal this fall from grace, cheaters are employing increasingly sophisticated modes of masking the use of any proscribed drugs. This practice, some of it state-sanctioned, undermines international athletic competition and is often connected to more nefarious actions by state actors.

This is why it is necessary for Congress to enact H.R. 6067, the bipartisan Rodchenkov Anti-Doping Act (“RADA”) Act.

The legislation I have introduced would institutionalize eradication of such practices in sports, and bears the name of courageous whistleblower Dr. Grigory Rodchenkov, a valiant man who revealed the true extent of the
complex state-run doping scheme which permitted Russia to excel in the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics, and which resulted in its ban from the 2018 Olympic Games.

While he was complicit in Russia’s state-run doping program, Dr. Rodchenkov regrets his role and seeks to atone for it by aiding the effort to clean up international sports and to curb the rampant corruption within Russia.

The RADA Act is a serious step towards cracking down on the use of performance-enhancing drugs in major international competition because it establishes criminal penalties and civil remedies for doping fraud.

A number of other nations, including Germany, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Italy, Sweden, Switzerland, and Spain, have embraced criminal sanctions for doping fraud violations and it is time for the United States to be added to this list.

Doping fraud in major international competitions—like the Olympics, the World Cup and the Tour de France—is often linked with corruption, bribery and money laundering.

It is not just victory that criminals engaged in doping fraud snatch away from clean athletes—athletes depend on prize money and sponsorships to sustain their livelihoods.

The United States has a large role to play in ferreting out corruption in international sports.

Not only do U.S. athletes lose out on millions in sponsorships, but when a U.S. company spends millions to create a marketing campaign around an athlete, only to have that athlete later implicated in a doping fraud scandal, the damage to that company’s brand can cost tens of millions.

This has been the story of Alysia Montaño, a U.S. runner who competed in the 2012 Summer Olympics games in London and placed fifth place in the 800 meters behind two Russian women finishing first and third.

These women were later found to have engaged in doping fraud by the World Anti-Doping Agency, meaning that Ms. Montaño had rightfully finished third, which would have earned her a bronze medal.

Ms. Montaño estimates that doping fraud cost her ‘maybe half a million dollars, if you look at rolleroys and bonuses, and that’s without outside sponsorship maybe coming in.’

She adds, ‘That’s not why you’re doing it, but you still deserve it.’ She certainly does. Until now, defrauded U.S. athletes and companies have had little recourse against doping fraud.

A recent article published by The New York Times titled “U.S. Lawmakers Seek To Criminalize Doping in Global Competitions” references the RADA as a step in the right direction toward criminalizing doping in international sports.

The RADA is an important step to stemming the tide of Russian corruption in sport and restoring confidence in international competition.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the SPEECHES, where one of the most elaborate doping conspiracies, where one of the most elaborate doping conspiracies

[From the New York Times, June 12, 2018]

U.S. LAWMAKERS SEEK TO CRIMINALIZE DOPING IN GLOBAL COMPETITIONS

(By Rebecca R. Ruiz)

United States lawmakers on Tuesday took a step toward criminalizing doping in international sports when they introduced a bill in the House that would attach prison time to the use, manufacturing or distribution of performance-enhancing drugs in global competitions.

The legislation, inspired by the Russian doping scandal, would echo the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, which makes it illegal to bribe foreign officials to gain a business advantage. The statute would be the first of its kind with global reach, empowering American prosecutors to act on doping violations abroad, and to file fraud charges of a different variety than those the Justice Department brought against top international soccer officials in 2015.

Although American leagues like Major League Baseball would not be affected by the legislation, which would apply only to competitions among countries, it could apply to a league’s athletes when participating in global events like the Ryder Cup, the Davis Cup or the World Baseball Classic.

In the law’s previous version over international sports events, even those outside of the United States, if they include at least three other nations, with at least four American athletes participating or two American companies acting as sponsors. It would also enhance the ability of cheated athletes and corporate sponsors to seek damages, expanding the window of time during which civil lawsuits could be filed.

To justify the United States’ broader jurisdiction over international competitions, the House bill invokes the United States’ contribution to the World Anti-Doping Agency, the global regulator of drugs in sports. At $2.3 million, the United States’ annual contribution is the single largest of any nation. “Doping fraud in major international competitions also effectively defrauds the United States,” the bill states.

The lawmakers behind the bill were instrumental in the creation of the 2012 Magnitsky Act, which gave the government the right to freeze financial assets and impose visa restrictions on officials accused of serious human rights violations and corruption. On Tuesday, the lawmakers framed their interest in sports fraud around international relations, explaining that “doping fraud can accompany cheating.”

“Doping fraud is a crime in which big money, state assets and transnational criminals gain advantage and honest athletes and companies are defrauded,” said Sheila Jackson Lee, Democrat of Texas, who introduced the legislation on Tuesday. “This practice, some states sanctioned, has the ability to undermine international relations, and is often connected to more nefarious actions by state actors.”

Along with Ms. Jackson Lee, the bill was sponsored by two other Congressional representatives, Michael Burgess, Republican of Texas, and Gwen Moore, Democrat of Wisconsin.

It was put forward just as Russia prepares to host soccer’s World Cup, which starts Thursday. That sporting event will be the nation’s biggest since the 2014 Sochi Olympics, where one of the most elaborate doping plagues in history took place.

The bill, the Rodchenkov Anti-Doping Act, takes its name from Dr. Grigory Rodchenkov, the chemist who ran Russia’s antidoping laboratory for 10 years before he spoke out about the state-sponsored cheating he had helped carry out—most notoriously in Sochi. After Dr. Rodchenkov said he concealed widespread drug use among Russia’s top Olympians by tampering with more than 100 urine samples to help of Russia’s Federal Security Service.

Investigations commissioned by international sports regulators confirmed his account and concluded that Russia had cheated across competitions and years, tainting the performance of more than 1,000 athletes. In early 2017, American intelligence officials concluded that Russia’s meddling in the 2016 American election had, in part, a form of retribution for the Olympic doping scandal, whose disclosures Russian officials blamed on the United States.

Nations including Germany, France, Italy, Kenya and Spain have established criminal penalties for sports doping perpetrated within their borders. Russia, too, passed a law in 2017 that made it a crime to assist or coerce doping, though no known charges have been brought under that law.

Under the proposed American law, criminal penalties for offenders would include a prison term of up to five years as well as fines that could stretch to $250,000 for individuals and $1 million for corporations acting as sponsors—the right to sue in federal court to recover damages from people who may have defrauded competitions.

Ms. Jackson Lee cited the American runner Alysia Montaño, who placed fifth in the 800 meters at the 2012 Summer Olympics. Two Russian women who placed first and third in that race were later disqualified for doping, elevating Ms. Montaño years later. “She had rightfully finished third, which would have earned her a medal,” Ms. Jackson Lee said, noting the financial benefits and sponsorships Ms. Montaño could have captured.

The bill would establish a window of seven years for criminal actions and 10 years for civil lawsuits. It also seeks to protect whistleblowers from retaliation, making it illegal to take “adverse action” against a person because he or she has disclosed information about doping fraud.

Dr. Rodchenkov, who has lived in the United States since fall 2015, has been criminally charged in Russia after he publicly deconstructed the cheating he said he carried out on orders from a state minister.

“He was complicit in Russia’s past bad acts. Dr. Rodchenkov regrets his past role in Russia’s state-run doping program and seeks to atone for it by aiding the effort to clean up international sports and to curb the corruption rampant in Russia,” Ms. Jackson Lee said, calling Tuesday’s bill “an important step to stemming the tide of Russian corruption in sport and restoring confidence in international competition.”