

heart of the question is whether all Americans are to be afforded equal rights and equal opportunities, whether we are going to treat our fellow Americans as we want to be treated. One hundred years of delay have passed since President Lincoln freed the slaves, yet their heirs, their grandsons, are not fully free. They are not yet freed from the bonds of injustice. They are not yet freed from social and economic oppression. And this Nation, for all its hopes and all its boasts, will not be fully free until all its citizens are free. Now the time has come for this Nation to fulfill its promise."

And a better country, we have become.

Although we have come a long way, we must not become complacent on the issues of civil rights.

Our nation is a growing melting pot, and we must continue to make sure American citizens, regardless of their religion, race, or gender, are granted the right to freedom and equality.

This nation prides itself on the abundance of individual freedom.

Through the Civil Rights Act of 1964, we have nurtured a land where every American citizen is born free, and with the opportunity to chase their own American dream.

Mr. Speaker, before signing the Civil Rights Act of 1964, President Lyndon Baines Johnson addressed the nation on the significance of the bill he was about to sign: "We believe that all men are created equal. Yet many are denied equal treatment. We believe that all men have certain unalienable rights. Yet many Americans do not enjoy those rights. We believe that all men are entitled to the blessings of liberty. Yet millions are being deprived of those blessings—not because of their own failures, but because of the color of their skin. The reasons are deeply imbedded in history and tradition and the nature of man. We can understand—without rancor or hatred—how this all happened. But it cannot continue. Our Constitution, the foundation of our Republic, forbids it. The principles of our freedom forbid it. Morality forbids it. And the law I will sign tonight forbids it."

Our fight for civil rights is not over.

Victories such as the Supreme Court decision on marriage equality do not overshadow the fact that those who identify as LGBT can get married on Monday, be fired by Friday, and be kicked out of their apartment by Sunday.

The fight is not over.

Mr. Speaker, we still have members of minority communities being killed based on the color of their skin and not the content of their character.

Our fight is not over.

Symbols of hate hang on government buildings in the form of a flag that inspires deplorable actions, leaving 9 dead after a church Bible study.

America's fight for civil rights is not over.

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 sought to fulfill the promise of the fourteenth amendment that "no state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

Fifty-one years ago we as a nation moved forward to accept that all American citizens have the same inalienable rights regardless of religion, race, or gender.

The language of the 14th Amendment and the Civil Rights Act of 1964 guarantees protection for all citizens' rights and it is our job as representatives of the people to make sure we continue to defend those rights.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to acknowledge the progress we have made since the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and I pledge to continue fighting for all Americans so that we may keep the promises written in law by our founding fathers.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES W.
(BILL) CURTIS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize the retirement of James W. (Bill) Curtis from the East Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission.

Mr. Curtis has served as the Executive Director of the Commission since November 1980. He has over 44 years of professional experience in the planning field and has worked for state, regional and local agencies.

Previously, he was the Principal Planner with the Jefferson County Office of Planning and Community Development in Birmingham, Alabama. Mr. Curtis also served as Planning Director for the South Central Alabama Development Commission in Montgomery, Alabama, and worked as a Planner for the states of Tennessee and South Carolina.

Mr. Curtis holds a Master of City Planning degree from Georgia Institute of Technology and a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Georgia. He holds charter membership in the American Planning Association and the American Institute of Certified Planners, and has served as the President of the Alabama Chapter of the American Planning Association and President of the Alabama Association of Regional Councils.

In 1995, Mr. Curtis was named "Planner of the Year" by the Alabama Chapter of the American Planning Association, and in 2003, was named to the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Certified Planners.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Mr. Curtis and congratulating him on his retirement.

HONORING THE MARRIAGE OF MR.
AND MRS. BRYCE KAPPER

HON. ROBERT J. DOLD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the marriage of Mr. Bryce Kapper and his wife, Brittany, née Mueller. Mr. and Mrs. Kapper were united in marriage Saturday June 27, 2015 at the First Congregational United Church of Christ in their hometown of Decatur, Illinois. The ceremony was officiated by the Reverend Dave Taylor and was followed by a reception at the Decatur Conference Center and Hotel. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Craig Mueller. The groom is the son

of Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Kapper, better known by one of the attendees as "Mama and Papa Kapper."

Miss Tiffany Laramée served as Maid of Honor. Bridesmaids included Miss Rachael Clark, Miss Brittany Maxedon and Mrs. Becky Brewster. Mr. Scott Lietzow served as Best Man. Groomsmen included Mr. Kyle Kapper, brother of the groom; Mr. Clint Mueller, brother of the bride; and Mr. Rick Barry.

The new Mr. and Mrs. Kapper are a wonderful match and their love for each other is evident to all they meet. I wish them all the best in this new and exciting chapter of their lives together.

TRIBUTE TO DR. STEVEN BASCOM

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Steven Bascom, the recipient of the Patient Care Partner Award from the Iowa Pharmacy Association.

Dr. Bascom was presented with this award during the IPA Annual Meeting banquet on June 12, 2015. The IPA Patient Care Partner Award annually recognizes a physician or other health care provider in an Iowa community who works collaboratively with pharmacists to optimize the care of their patients. Dr. Bascom was nominated by DeeAnn Wedemeyer-Oleson, Director of Pharmacy at Guthrie County Hospital. He was instrumental in the adoption of the Admission Home Medication orders collaborative drug therapy management protocol used at GCH.

I applaud and congratulate Dr. Bascom for receiving this award. I am proud to represent him and his fellow doctors and pharmacists in Guthrie County in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues in the House join me in congratulating Dr. Bascom and wishing him nothing but continued success in the future.

CONGRATULATIONS SKIP
MARANEY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, during the 54th Annual Roll Call Congressional Baseball Game for Charity on June 11th, there was recognition of Skip Maraney as this year's Hall of Fame Inductee.

Skip was properly recognized as a living legend institution of Capitol Hill. The following tribute was published in the game program.

ROLL CALL'S THE MAN WHO PIONEERED ROLL CALL'S SPORTS COVERAGE

(By David Meyers)

If Roll Call founder Sid Yudain was the Abner Doubleday of congressional baseball, Skip Maraney was his Shirley Povich.

Maraney spent most of the 1960's writing about congressional sports—baseball, obviously, but also basketball, softball, bowling, and bridge—for Roll Call. In fact, he was Roll Call's first, and seemingly only, sports columnist. For his dedication to the paper, the