

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF THE HEMP ACCESS AND CONSUMER SAFETY ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 24, 2023

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the Hemp Access and Consumer Safety Act. This legislation would allow the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to regulate hemp and hemp-derived cannabidiol (CBD) like any other legal dietary ingredients, foods, and beverages.

U.S. cannabis laws are broken, and legalizing hemp was a significant step forward. However, in order for the market to fully operate with hemp and hemp-derived CBD products with a federal consumer safety standard, FDA has to regulate these products. FDA has announced that it does not plan to use existing authorities to regulate these products.

I am introducing this legislation in partnership with my fellow Oregonian, Senator WYDEN, because our constituents are directly impacted by this gap in federal safety standards. As the public has grown increasingly interested in CBD, the federal government's consumer protection mechanisms have failed to keep up.

The Hemp Access and Consumer Safety Act will finally bring CBD regulations up to par with the safety standards Americans should be able to expect for these legal products. It will also ensure packaging and labeling can be regulated to prevent minors accessing these products or any other undue confusion for consumers.

I look forward to working with my co-leads, Senators RON WYDEN and RAND PAUL, and my colleagues in the House and Senate to enact this legislation and finally guarantee common-sense safety regulations for hemp and hemp-derived products.

HONORING THE SACRIFICE OF U.S. CAPITOL POLICE OFFICERS, OFFICER JACOB CHESTNUT AND DETECTIVE JOHN M. GIBSON

HON. BRYAN STEIL

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 24, 2023

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor 2 Capitol Police officers, Officer Jacob J. Chestnut, Jr., and Detective John M. Gibson, who were shot and killed by a gunman in the Capitol on July 24, 1998.

In the afternoon of July 24, 1998, a lone gunman forced his way past a security checkpoint, fatally shooting Officer Chestnut. The assailant ran toward an entrance that led to the offices of Tom DeLay of Texas, the Majority Whip. Detective Gibson, a member of DeLay's protective team, told others to hide

and find cover. The gunman shot Gibson, and although mortally wounded, Gibson returned fire, striking the gunman. Detective Gibson's selfless acts resulted in lives saved and provided an opportunity for responding officers to restrain the gunman and end the horrific events that day.

Officer Jacob Joseph Chestnut, Jr., was a 20-year Air Force veteran, having served 2 tours in Vietnam, and retired as a Master Sergeant. He has the distinction of being the first African American to lie in honor at the Capitol. He was 58 years old.

Detective John Michael Gibson had been selected as part of the dignity protection team for Congressman Tom DeLay and had served with the United States Capitol Police for 18 years. He left behind his wife, a 17-year-old daughter, and 2 sons, 14 and 15 years old. He laid in honor with Officer Chestnut in the Capitol rotunda.

Both men were buried with full honors in Arlington National Cemetery. These men gave their lives in defense of the democracy that serves all of us while defending the lives of congressmen and -women, congressional staffers, and other United States Capitol Police officers.

In the days that followed, Representative DeLay stated that the death of these officers symbolized, "the sacrifices of thousands of police officers across the Nation who do their duty to serve and protect the public, sometimes under great abuse, sometimes under great disregard, and many times people take them for granted. It all comes together when an incident like this happens and we realize how much we owe to police officers all over this country."

I'll say that the women and men who comprise the United States Capitol Police Department continue to be a very important component in safeguarding the form of government that allows us daily and routine freedoms.

Today we remember Officer Jacob Chestnut and Detective John Gibson while thanking all who are a part of the United States Capitol Police Department.

FAIR SHIPPING FOR NON-CONTIGUOUS AREAS ACT OF 2023

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 24, 2023

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill to end the exclusionary and discriminatory practices of private shipping services to Hawaii and the other non-contiguous parts of our country.

My home state of Hawaii is located almost 2,500 miles off the West Coast. We depend on shipping more than many other locations in our country, importing well over 90 percent of our life necessities, yet people living in Hawaii have encountered 3 unfair shipping practices.

First, when ordering essentials online, we often learn that a particular online store or

item doesn't even ship to Hawaii at all. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) reviewed this issue and confirmed that "some companies . . . are unwilling to ship products to Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the other territories." This exclusion prevents a few million Americans in the non-contiguous states from obtaining key products that should be available to them.

Second, as many of my constituents know, those who live in Hawaii are often denied free shipping options from online retailers. It is so painful when a website advertises free shipping and you fill up your shopping cart and input your address only for a red error message to pop up with the news that Hawaii, Alaska, Guam and elsewhere are not included in the free shipping deal.

Third, even when companies do ship to Hawaii, the prices bears no reasonable relationship to the distances involved. The cost to ship to and from anywhere in the United States depends on several factors, including the weight and size of your package and service class. However, according to the FTC, private shipping companies' delivery options may cost considerably more for a destination in Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the other U.S. territories than for the contiguous states. For example, a 2-pound package sent from Los Angeles to Hawaii costs \$45.33, but the same shipment from Los Angeles to New York is just \$14.28. This outrageous price is from a private shipping company that categorizes shipping to Hawaii as an international shipment. It is hard to believe that over 60 years after becoming a state and over 120 years after becoming part of America, Hawaii is still treated as a foreign country.

These price discrepancies also bear no relation to the product and are included regardless of the distance between the sender and the recipient. For example, 1 private shipping company charges approximately \$150 to ship a small package from Seattle to Juneau in 2 days, whereas the same package would cost approximately \$65 to ship a much greater distance from Seattle to Washington, D.C. in 2 days.

We—the non-contiguous areas of our country—are bearing the burden of these 3 discriminatory shipping practices. My bill, the Fair Shipping for Non-Contiguous Areas Act, addresses all 3 problems. It would require shippers to support all locations within our country. It would also end the exclusionary and discriminatory pricing practices of private shipping companies to and from my home state of Hawaii and elsewhere—excluding them from free shipping or charging exorbitated rates. In doing so, we will break these shipping companies' stranglehold on exposed communities and address another contributor to the sky-high living costs in Hawaii and other non-contiguous locations. I urge my colleagues to support this bill as a matter of fairness for the people of Hawaii and all other Americans who do not live in the continental United States.

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