

serve our constituents. The American people need Congressional action to crush COVID-19. While there are portions of this bill I could support, I cannot support it in its current form.

MENSTRUAL EQUITY IN THE
PEACE CORPS ACT

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 1, 2021

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, for 60 years, Peace Corps has been an enduring symbol of peace and friendship between the U.S. and our global community. Peace Corps Volunteers (PCVs) sacrifice over two years of their time, working side by side with local leadership to combat some of the most pressing challenges of our generation.

Unfortunately, I have heard from too many PCVs who have struggled to access and afford menstrual products. PCVs, and Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCVs) have shared with me how menstrual products are not readily available, or these items are far more expensive than they would be in the U.S. So many of these volunteers are also placed in very remote locations—forcing them to travel extremely far distances to access menstrual products.

Additionally, while the Peace Corps Medical Officers in some countries provides these products for PCVs, volunteers in other countries are forced to purchase these products out of the same limited stipend everyone else receives. Other volunteers pay hundreds of dollars out-of-pocket to ship these items from the U.S. to their country of service, or they wait to receive these items in their care packages from loved ones back home.

This is simply wrong. Menstrual products are not luxury items; they are medical necessities. Menstrual equity is a basic health right and human right.

That is why, today, on the 60th Anniversary of Peace Corps, I am reintroducing the Menstrual Equity in the Peace Corps Act to ensure that all PCVs have free and equitable access to menstrual products.

For the 65 percent of PCVs who are women, and the more than 90 percent of PCVs who are under the age of 50, this is simply a matter of equity. The Menstrual Equity in the Peace Corps Act would direct the Peace Corps Director to establish a comprehensive policy that makes available free menstrual products to PCVs who require them, or increase stipends to allow for those expenses.

Today, on the 60th Anniversary of the founding of Peace Corps, I recognize the bravery of all my constituents who have served in Peace Corps, and I am proud to reintroduce this critical bill that upholds the health and safety of all who answer the call to serve in Peace Corps. I thank my colleagues who have joined me in this critical legislation, and I urge its swift passage to ensure menstrual equity for all Peace Corps Volunteers.

TRIBUTE FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EDWARDS V. SOUTH CAROLINA MARCH

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 1, 2021

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an important anniversary that brings the actions of my youth full circle to my service in this esteemed body.

Sixty years ago, a student-led march took place in South Carolina's capital city protesting state laws designed to maintain de jure segregation of Blacks and whites in my home state. The arrests that day, March 2, 1961, resulted in the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark breach of the peace ruling. The case, *Edwards v. South Carolina*, is still taught in law schools today. I was among the student protestors arrested that day for seeking equal justice and civil rights, and I am proud of the role this event played in protecting the right to protest peacefully in this country.

On that momentous day, approximately 200 high school and college students from all over South Carolina gathered at Zion Baptist Church in Columbia and marched to the State House to protest racial discrimination. As a 20-year-old student protest leader at South Carolina State College (now University), I left Orangeburg with several of my classmates to join in the march. We divided into groups, and I agreed to lead a contingency of students from my high school Mather Academy toward the State House grounds. When we approached the State House, law enforcement officers ordered us to turn around. It had been my intention to do just that, but the students I was leading wanted to press on. We marched on singing hymns and patriotic songs. 191 protestors were arrested for breaching the peace and spent the next three days in jail before being released on bail.

There were four separate bench trials that March and 189 students were convicted in Magistrate's Court despite the exemplary representation of NAACP attorney Matthew J. Perry and his colleagues, Lincoln Jenkins II and Donald Sampson. All but two of the protestors appealed their convictions, which were upheld by the South Carolina Supreme Court.

On December 13, 1962, the *Edwards v. South Carolina* case, named for Benedict College protestor James Edwards, was argued before the U.S. Supreme Court by Matthew Perry. On February 25, 1963, the high court ruled eight to one in favor of the student defendants, reversing their convictions.

Justice Potter Stewart wrote in the majority opinion that a state cannot "make criminal the peaceful expression of unpopular views." Since that ruling, *Edwards v. South Carolina* has been cited as the precedent in more than 70 breach of the peace cases.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the contributions of the student protestors in *Edwards v. South Carolina* as we remember their protest 60 years ago. As one of the young people involved in this historic event, I can attest that we were committed to the fight for civil rights, and had no idea that our actions would contribute to preserving the right to peacefully protest for future generations.

Today similar tactics are being employed in movements like Black Lives Matter. I applaud their efforts and thank the City of Columbia, Historic Columbia and the University of South Carolina for the monument they have erected to memorialize this momentous event.

TRIBUTE TO DEACON DAVIES
JOHNSON

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 1, 2021

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, to be of service to humanity is one of the greatest attributes one can have. Such was the life and character traits of Davies Johnson. Born and raised in rural Arkansas on the border of Louisiana, in the little town of Wilmot, Arkansas, Davies married his childhood sweetheart Mabel Parker in 1953 and migrated to Chicago, Illinois where they made their home and their lives. Davies was employed by the Burlington Railroad where he began as a Porter and became a Crane Operator and retired as a Supervisor after thirty-three years. Mr. Johnson was always kind and considerate. He was Christian-orientated and joined the Lord's Way Missionary Baptist Church in 1973. At Lord's Way, Mr. Johnson served on the Trustee Board, Sunday School Superintendent, Chairman of the Deacon Board and as anything else the church needed him to do. Deacon Johnson was a stalwart in his family and the community where he lived. He was a man of high standards and was well regarded by all who knew him. The world became a better place because Davies Johnson lived, and my life was enriched by knowing him. May he rest in peace.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF
JOHN SCHIECHE

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 1, 2021

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career of John Schieche, Superintendent of the East Valley School District, who is retiring after 43 years of shaping the next generation of Central Washington students.

As a farmer, it is my duty to highlight the fact that John was first exposed to teaching during his days managing a 1,500-acre wheat farm. It was not uncommon for John to hire high school students as farmhands during the summer months and teach them how to operate heavy machinery. This experience made for an easy transition into teaching as an auto mechanics and shop teacher.

Over the years, John excelled in all areas of education, most recently, he was awarded the 2018 Crystal Apple Award for his dedication to advancing school communications.

John started his journey to becoming superintendent in the early 1990's after being hired by the Yakima School District to serve as Director of the Yakima Valley Technical Skills Center.

During his time in that leadership role, John was also pursuing his credentials to become a