

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
JOSEPH B. ROGERS

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Joseph B. Rogers of Denver, Colorado, whom we lost on October 7th of this year. Born in Omaha, Nebraska, at an early age Joe moved with his family to Colorado where he would spend the rest of his life. Colorado has lost a political pioneer and an outstanding advocate for civil rights and Western values.

Joe attended Colorado State University, where he graduated with a degree in Business Administration and then went on to law school at Arizona State University, where he won the national American Bar Association Negotiation competition. Following law school, Joe returned home to serve his fellow Coloradans. He was known for practicing pro bono legal services for the poor in southeast Colorado before he went on to practice law at one of Colorado's top law firms. Joe began his career in public service as a legislative aide to Former U.S. Senator Hank Brown (R-CO).

Joe Rogers was a dedicated public servant who always gave his wholehearted effort to fight for what he believed was best for Colorado. Joe was a member of the National Commission on the Voting Rights Act and received the Trumpet Award from the Turner Broadcasting System in recognition of his hard work and dedication to the African-American com-

munity. Joe went on to serve as Colorado's second African-American and youngest ever Lieutenant Governor from 1999 to 2003. He was driven by his will to serve the people of Colorado and he will truly be missed.

Joe Rogers is survived by his wife, Juanita Kay Rogers, and their three children: Trent Rogers, Jordan Rogers, and Haley Rogers. Joe's dedication to public service is truly an inspiration to all Coloradans and it is with much sadness that we say goodbye. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Lieutenant Governor Joe Rogers for a lifetime of achievement and hard work for the people of Colorado.

THE IMPROVING ACCESS TO CAPITAL FOR EMERGING GROWTH COMPANIES ACT

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2013

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Improving Access to Capital for Emerging Growth Companies Act with the gentleman from Maryland, Congressman JOHN DELANEY. This legislation builds upon the success of the original bi-partisan JOBS Act, which was enacted into law in 2012. It focuses on making improvements to the initial public offering (IPO) process for a new category of issuers known as "emerging growth companies," or EGCs.

Since the passage of the JOBS Act in April 2012, which established the EGC category in

Title I, more than 200 companies have registered with the SEC as EGCs. At the one year anniversary of the JOBS Act, a study by Ernst & Young showed that, "Approximately 78 percent of all publicly filed IPO registration statements and approximately 83 percent of the IPOs that went effective since April 2012 were filed by EGCs." Since passage last year, Title I of the JOBS Act has clearly been a tremendous success, affording more companies the opportunity to go public and create jobs for hardworking Americans.

While this JOBS Act provision has been successful, more can be done to improve the process of going public for EGCs. The Improving Access to Capital for Emerging Growth Companies Act would reduce the number of days EGCs must have a confidential registration statement on file with the SEC from 21 days to 15 days and allow a one year grace period for an issuer that began the IPO process as an EGC to complete its IPO as an EGC. This legislation also clarifies financial disclosure requirements for EGCs and allows an EGC to confidentially submit a proposal to the SEC for a follow-on offering.

These are simple, technical improvements to the JOBS Act that improve the IPO process and allow EGCs to continue growing and providing jobs for Americans. Mr. Speaker, I want to emphasize that job creation is the most important reason to pass this legislation quickly. More companies going public leads to more expansion and investment, which will lead to job creation. The gentleman from Maryland, Mr. DELANEY, and I are pleased to be introducing this bill today.