

Alabama A&M has flourished and brought accolades and honors galore back to North Alabama.

On May 1, 1875, Alabama A&M opened with a state appropriation of 1000 dollars, 61 students and 2 teachers. Today it is a thriving university boasting a wide variety of degree programs ranging from the associate to the Ph.D. degree. Their commitment to academic excellence and individual student need are almost unparalleled.

This is a fitting tribute for an institution that has instilled knowledge and character in so many young people for over a century. I am proud of Alabama A&M and their under-graduate and graduate school offerings. Alabama A&M is North Alabama's only source for an accredited master's degree in social work. For the past three consecutive years, they have had five students listed on the USA Today Academic Team and they are listed among the Top 50 Black Enterprise/DayStar Schools.

On behalf of the U.S. Congress, I pay homage to Alabama A&M and thank them for the countless contributions they have made to our community. I congratulate the university on their 125th anniversary and look forward to many more years of success and growth.

PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION BAN  
ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 5, 2000*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today, I will vote against HR 3660. For the third time in five years, the House of Representatives is considering a bill to ban so-called "partial birth" abortions. For the third time since I came to Congress we will be voting on a bill that is almost certainly unconstitutional and will be vetoed by the President.

The advocates of the bill suggest that this version has been changed to address some of the constitutional concerns. This bill does recognize that the lives of mothers have a claim to protection, but it remains silent when there is a threat to a woman's health.

During the previous consideration of this type of legislation, Congress and the President heard from many women for whom this type of legislation would have dire consequences. These women and their families were all confronted with tragic situations and, with the qualified medical direction of their doctors, made the incredibly personal and difficult decision to terminate their pregnancy. Congress has no place in that decision. This legislation would have a catastrophic effect on the lives of families like these.

HR 3660 is more about politics than good policy. If the Congress were serious about preventing abortion, it would not be fighting efforts to make family planning more widely available. If it were serious about protecting children, it would do much more to ensure available child care and quality schools.

Proponents of this bill show gruesome pictures of objectionable procedures and ignore the pictures of the many real families who

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have had to make difficult decisions in the face of tragic circumstances. We cannot continue to ignore those pictures and the wrenching reality they represent.

My position on this most sensitive of personal decisions is very simple: Congress should not interfere. I will oppose this legislation.

C.B. KING UNITED STATES  
COURTHOUSE

SPEECH OF

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 3, 2000*

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, the late C.B. King of Albany, Georgia was born on October 12, 1923, one of eight children of Clennon W. and Margaret Slater King, who raised a truly extraordinary family. Following graduation from high school, he served in the Navy and then earned his bachelor's degree from Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee and his law degree from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. Although other promising opportunities were available to him, he decided to return home and become the only black attorney practicing in his community, and one of only three practicing in Georgia outside of Atlanta.

As an attorney, a civil rights leader, and a pioneering political candidate, C.B. King spent the remainder of his life making contributions to the cause of justice, opportunity, and dignity for all Americans. Although he remained Albany-based throughout his career, limiting his activities primarily to the areas of southwest Georgia where he was raised, he became a nationally-known figure whose impact was felt throughout our state and the nation at-large.

He was a courageous leader of the Albany Movement, suffering a severe beating and facing many threats to his life during a campaign described by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as one of the crucial battles of the civil rights struggle. He ran political races for President, Congress and as the first black gubernatorial candidate in Georgia since Reconstruction, not because he thought he would win, but because his candidacy provided a forum for the causes he represented and helped pave the way for future minority candidates. He was a compassionate citizen, devoting much of his time to pro bono law work for the poor and volunteering his time and talent in community projects for the needy. He was a Navy veteran, a faithful member of his church, and a loving husband and father. Perhaps he is remembered most of all as the lead attorney in a series of landmark law suits that broke down old walls of discrimination and opened new doors of opportunity.

It is therefore fitting, Mr. Speaker, for this Congress to name the new federal courthouse in Albany, Georgia for the late Chevene Bowers King, and I want to thank all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for their wholehearted support of this legislation.

The list of breakthrough cases that he won is extensive. Among them are:

Gaines v. Dougherty County Board of Education; Lockett v. Board of Education of

Muscogee County; Harrington v. Colquitt County Board of Education. These cases, involving multiple appeals over a period of years, led to full compliance with Brown v. Board of Education in those communities, accelerating the pace of desegregation in other areas.

Anderson v. City of Albany; Kelly v. Page. These cases reaffirmed the right of citizens to peaceably assemble.

Bell v. Southwell. This case ended the use of segregated polling booths, voiding an election where separate booths were used.

Brown v. Culpepper; Foster v. Sparks; Thompson v. Sheppard; Pullum v. Greene; Broadway v. Culpepper; Rabinowitz v. United States. These cases prohibited the use of jury selection lists on which blacks were under represented and ended the exclusion of blacks on juries on the basis of race.

Johnson v. City of Albany. This case led to the end of discriminatory practices in local government employment.

C.B. King possessed many extraordinary qualities. Courage was certainly one. There are countless examples of how he stood his ground in the face of danger. Although he acknowledged there were times when he was frightened, he never once backed down when he believed he was in the right. His tenacity was legendary. Once he entered the fray, you knew he would be in the thick of the battle until the end. He never gave up. His skills certainly were awesome, as his record as an attorney confirms. Through it all, he was a man who cared deeply for his community, state, and country and for people of all races, creeds, and backgrounds.

I wonder what our state and country would be like had C.B. King not challenged the status quo in federal court and forced desegregation of the public schools in many communities, raising the quality of education for many children. Would we ever have seen the talent of a Hershel Walker, a Charlie Ward, or Judge Herbert Phipps?

Had C.B. King not gone into Albany's Federal Court to force compliance with laws prohibiting discrimination in employment based on race, creed, religion, or gender, how many local governments would have been deprived of the talent of countless African-American public-sector employees? This was a milestone in the history of the South and southwest Georgia.

What kind of justice system would we have if C.B. King had not gone into federal court to end the age-old practice of excluding blacks and women from serving on juries? What if C.B. King had not been there to have our federal courts protect the rights of citizens of all colors to peaceably assemble, have equal access to public facilities, and to be free of discrimination in voter registration, in the voting booth and in running for office? Indeed, I nor any other African-American would be able to hold public office, regardless of our qualifications or abilities, had it not been for C.B. King's work.

On March 15, 1988, this great leader passed away following a long illness.

Mr. Speaker, it's not the two dates on our tombstone that are important. It's what happens in-between. What happened in the life of C.B. King changed the course of our history.