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Dennis J. Kucinich

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

IN HONOR OF LESLIE L. MEGYERI

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Leslie L. Megyeri, who is being honored by the American Hungarian Foundation. Leslie will be the recipient of the Abraham Lincoln award for his courageous actions during the 1956 Hungarian Revolution.

During Mr. Megyeri's adolescence he read the great Hungarian poet Petöfi, whose words he took to heart. These words were: "Stand up Hungarians—Your Country is calling, the question is do you want to be a slave or free?" Although he was only a teenager at the time, on October 23rd, 1956, he followed his father and took up arms against the Communists in power. However, the Soviets arrived to support the now collapsed Hungarian Communist government against the revolutionaries. He was one of 10,000 Hungarian freedom fighters who fought to defend his homeland; they were overwhelmed and Mr. Megyeri was driven into Austria.

Following the 1956 Hungarian Revolution Mr. Megyeri emigrated to the United States and embraced freedom with open arms. He attained his extension education at several American universities and worked numerous jobs. Throughout his long career he has worked as an attorney for the Federal Aviation Administration, an audit manager for the Government Accountability Office, and on several congressional committee staffs. After spending several years practicing private law, in 2003, Mr. Megyeri began his tenure as President of the [Hungarian Reformed Federation of America](#).

Among other noteworthy achievements, Leslie has received the Gold Cross of Merit from the President of Hungary for his involvement in assisting Hungary in their efforts to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring an outstanding individual who has committed himself toward the cause of freedom and liberty.

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