

From his humble start as an intern in my Washington DC office to ultimately serving as my Chief of Staff, Marc has demonstrated an unparalleled work ethic, poise under pressure, tremendous intelligence, and the highest moral character. Over the past seven years he has held nearly every position on my staff and, regardless of the task at hand, always approached his duties with the utmost professionalism. Marc is truly one of the most effective, reliable and ethical people I have ever met. He is also indefatigable, as it was routine for him to be the first one into the office in the morning and the last one to leave at night.

As a member of my senior staff, Marc served as my primary policy advisor and directed the legislative staff. In addition, he was responsible for helping me with my top priority as a Member of Congress: ensuring the security of our country. In addition to all his other responsibilities, Marc served, brilliantly, as my staffer on national security issues, managing my work on the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee.

Marc was born in Belleville, New Jersey. His parents, Andrew and Doreen Cevasco, raised him and his sister, Alison, and his two brothers, Andrew and Kevin, in Rutherford, New Jersey. He attended St. Peter's Preparatory School in Jersey City, New Jersey and then went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Philosophy from Loyola College in Baltimore, Maryland. While he worked long hours in my office, Marc made time to further advance his education, earning a Master's Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the United States Naval War College in 2010. Marc and his wonderful wife, Jenna Grant Cevasco, were married last June and they are expecting their first child next spring.

Prior to joining my staff, Marc served in the Jesuit Volunteer Corps in Sacramento, California. He worked at a transitional housing agency for homeless individuals who suffered with mental illness and substance abuse. Marc has not forgotten these experiences working with the overlooked and marginalized in our society and he carried the ideals of service and social justice with him to his work on Capitol Hill.

Marc has provided indispensable leadership to my staff and has been a trusted voice of counsel to me. He has my deepest respect and greatest appreciation for all of the many contributions he has made to my office and the well-being of my constituents and our country.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to formally and forever thank Marc Cevasco for his service to me, to the House of Representatives, to his home state of New Jersey, and to his country.

#### RECOGNIZING MR. WILLIAM SHINN

### HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. William Shinn as he retires after 45 years in public service to the people of Contra Costa County and the City of Concord. Bill Shinn has been known throughout the community as a man of integrity, and he has served with uncommon selflessness; we are all beneficiaries of his efforts.

Following his graduation from Mt. Diablo High School in 1959, Bill entered the United States Navy and served our country with distinction. Upon his release, he returned to Concord and joined the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department as a Deputy Sheriff. He quickly worked his way up the ranks to Captain, managing the County Detention System and security for Superior Court judges and courthouses.

During this time, Bill earned an Associate of Arts from Diablo Valley College, a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Criminal Justice from Sacramento State University, and a Master of Business Administration from Golden Gate University. In addition, Bill is a graduate of the FBI National Academy. After 29 years serving the people of Contra Costa County in law enforcement, Bill retired his badge to continue engaging in community work.

In 2004, Bill was elected to the Concord City Council, beginning his third "career" in public service. He served on the County-wide Committee on Ending Homelessness and chaired the city's Redevelopment Agency, the East Bay Regional Communications System, the County Parole Commission and the Concord Human Relations Commission. Bill was re-elected to City Council in 2008 and continued work on issues important to his constituents. Bill also served as Vice Mayor as well as Mayor of the City of Concord.

As dedicated as Bill is to community service, he is equally devoted to his wonderful family. He and his wife, Gale, raised two daughters and now enjoy the company of their four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I invite this chamber to join me in honoring Councilman William Shinn for his life-long service to our nation, our county and our community; and to join his family, friends and colleagues in congratulating him on a highly successful career. We wish Bill the very best as he begins a well-deserved retirement.

#### AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 2838, THE COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2012

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the legislation before us today to authorize the activities of the United States Coast Guard.

While I am dismayed that the measure does not include broader provisions to authorize the Coast Guard's important homeland security missions, I am pleased that it provides a much-needed and long overdue refinement to the Transportation Worker Identification Credential program.

The Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) program, administered by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and Coast Guard, is focused on protecting the Nation's maritime transportation facilities and vessels by requiring workers who need unescorted access to secure port facilities to obtain a biometric identification card.

Currently, workers must travel to TWIC enrollment centers to enroll in the program and then make a second trip to pick up and activate their approved TWICs.

This unnecessary process of requiring workers to make two trips to enrollment centers, which may be hundreds of miles from their home or workplace, has burdened American maritime and transportation workers since the program's inception in 2007.

The measure before us streamlines the program by requiring DHS to develop a process to mail TWICs to approved applicants rather than making workers return to an enrollment center to do so.

Unfortunately, however, this bill fails to fully address a number of maritime security provisions that passed in the House this Congress.

Nevertheless, on balance I support the legislation before us today and in particular the provision to streamline the TWIC process for American workers.

I urge Members to give it their support.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent and missed roll call votes during the week of December 3, 2012. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes, 614, 615, 617, 618, 619 and "no" on rollcall vote 616.

#### HONORING THE SERVICE OF CAROLYN FOSTER TO FAIR WISCONSIN

### HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Carolyn Foster for her service to Fair Wisconsin, and by extension, all lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Wisconsinites.

Fair Wisconsin is the statewide advocacy organization for LGBT individuals and families. Its mission is to advance, achieve, and protect equality for all LGBT citizens of Wisconsin. Ms. Foster joined the Fair Wisconsin staff in 2009 as the organization's accountant, at a challenging time for the organization.

She has ably assisted the organization in bringing order, stability, and consistency to its financial recordkeeping, policies, and procedures, which has made a critical difference in the overall management of the organization. She has been key to good financial management and stewardship of the organization's resources.

In the face of dealing with a terminal illness, Ms. Foster brings a strong sense of responsibility and an incredible work ethic to her work, as well as a quick wit and warm regard for her co-workers. The boards of directors and the staff of Fair Wisconsin are in awe of her tenacity, her dedication, and conscientiousness, and her strong and positive spirit. She is an invaluable and deeply valued member of the Fair Wisconsin team.

As a founder of Fair Wisconsin, I wish to extend my deep appreciation to Carolyn Foster for her service to the organization and the cause of equality for LGBT Wisconsinites. I wish her all the best.