

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JARED HUFFMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 9, 2015*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on September 8, 2015, I was absent for rollcall vote 490. Had I been present for rollcall vote 490, on passage of S. 1359, I would have voted "yes".

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROD BLUM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 9, 2015*

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 490 my flight was unavoidably delayed due to severe weather. Had I been present, I would have voted yes.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 9, 2015*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I attended a visitation for Shane Clifton, a St. Paul firefighter who died while on duty, and missed votes on September 8, 2015. Had I been present, I would have voted in support of the E-Warranty Act of 2015 (S. 1359).

IN HONOR OF "JOHN" ARTHUR J. HOWARTH

**HON. DONALD NORCROSS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 9, 2015*

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my sincere condolences and to honor the memory of "John" Arthur J. Howarth for his achievements, contributions, and service to his community as a loving husband, father, grandfather and pillar of civic engagement.

John Howarth spent his life serving his community for 40 years as an electrician for the International Brothers of Electrical Workers (IBEW), putting the needs of others before his own. John was also active as a member of his local union, serving as Recording Secretary. In addition to imparting the importance of citizenship to his children and grandchildren at an early age, he served as an inspiration to IBEW members. He taught them the value of a day's work and to appreciate life's gifts and opportunities.

John also served as general foreman on some of the largest projects in South Jersey. I had the privilege of working under him on the Garden State Park Race Track. He had a passion for passing on his trade to the next generation and I was privileged to be among the many IBEW members to benefit from his years of experience.

Mr. Speaker, John Howarth was an incredible man, devoted to his family, and dedicated to his community. He leaves behind a great

legacy and I join my IBEW brothers and sisters and the entire state of New Jersey in honoring the achievements and the life of this extraordinary man.

## HONORING SAL ESPOSITO

**HON. LOIS FRANKEL**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 9, 2015*

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Sal Esposito of Plantation, Florida, who turned 100 years old on August 27, 2015.

Mr. Esposito moved to the 22nd District in 1980 from New York. Before moving to South Florida, he proudly served in the military and was overseas for nearly three years during World War II. He worked in a factory making tools and dies for 45 years.

Mr. Esposito still works with machinery and tools in the Lauderdale West Community. He helps to make toys for children for the Plantation Historical Museum. He also enjoys playing tennis, playing cards, and performing in shows.

I thank Mr. Esposito for his service to our country and wish him many happy and healthy years to come.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 9, 2015*

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, September 8, 2015, I was not present due to a medical procedure and missed the following vote:

Roll Call Vote 490, On the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 3154—S. 1359, The E-Warranty Act of 2015. I would have voted "aye."

## TRIBUTE TO MARILYNN THANNEY

**HON. GWEN MOORE**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 9, 2015*

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Marilynn Thanney on her retirement. Ms. Thanney has served the 4th Congressional District for over 18 years. She has served in various positions during her tenure including Office Manager, Caseworker, Casework Supervisor and currently Casework Manager for my office.

Marilynn began her employment with the House of Representatives in 1998 beginning in the office of my predecessor Representative Gerald Kleczka. She joined my office in 2005. She was one of my first hires due to her welcoming spirit and knowledge of the district. Before joining federal employment, Ms. Thanney spent six years working for the Silver Spring Neighborhood Center and she also worked for the Better Business Bureau in their Milwaukee office.

Marilynn Thanney is the proud mother of four, three daughters: Jennifer, Rachel, and

Rebecca and son Joshua. She is the grandmother of 3: Makayla, Jackson, and Noah; they all reside in Minnesota where she will retire. She has been married to her soulmate Karen Mahler for over 15 years and was officially married to Karen in April 2014 in a ceremony held in Minnesota.

Marilynn has worked tirelessly on behalf of the constituents of the 4th Congressional District; she has tackled some of the most difficult problems and cases with many positive results. She is an exceptional leader and has been an advocate on issues regarding mental health, women, seniors, LGBT, and the disability community.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues of the 114th Congress to join me in congratulating Marilynn Thanney on her well-deserved retirement. She has been a true friend to her colleagues and friends and has exemplified in deed the true meaning of public servant. She has been a treasure for the 4th Congressional District and will be missed by my office, this community and the State of Wisconsin.

## HONORING JOSEPHINE DEFINA STETSON

**HON. LOIS FRANKEL**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 9, 2015*

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Josephine DeFina Stetson for her work in the U.S. Army War Department.

Josephine was born in New York City to Pasqual and Antoinette DeSimon, as the youngest of eight children. From a young age, Josephine had a passion for dance, a talent which led her to teach soldiers how to dance as a volunteer for the USO.

Josephine served as a civilian employee for the U.S. Army War Department for four years, developing flow charts illustrating the organizational structures of various commands.

After working for the Army, Josephine began selling real estate in the Palm Beaches, opening her own firm in 1973. She was consistently ranked one of the top firms in the area and the nation. Josephine is an enthusiastic member of the Palm Beach community, serving on the Palm Beach Board of Realtors for many years and as a longtime member and parishioner of the St. Edward's Church guild.

In honor of her years of commitment to her country and dedication to her community, I'm pleased to recognize Mrs. Josephine DeFina Stetson and thank her for her service.

## 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE APPALACHIAN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

**HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 9, 2015*

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to recognize an organization that has had a huge impact on rural areas of my District and the State of Tennessee.

The Appalachian Electric Cooperative is celebrating its 75th anniversary during its annual meeting on September 26th in White