

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## APPROVAL OF JOINT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF ACTION

SPEECH OF

**HON. STACEY E. PLASKETT**

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 10, 2015*

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.

Over these summer months my colleagues and I have engaged in—what I believe has been—enormous thought, analysis, consultation, and heartfelt introspection in taking a position on a matter that may determine the safety of the Middle East, and the United States' continued leadership in the world. For several years our nation has spearheaded sanctions, which have brought Iran to the negotiating table, and our President has presented to our nation a path to peace. For the last 30 years, American-Iranian relations have been trapped in not only suspicion and mistrust, but intractability; denying us the ability to develop even an agreement as to how we will manage our and our allies' relationship and interests in Iran. As a nation of democracy, dignity and freedom, fought for and defended by ourselves and our allies, I believe that the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) is the best means to protect and advance the best interests of our nation and those of our allies. I choose to support measures designed to build bridges to a future that may one day lead to peace.

I fundamentally support the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action and commend Secretary John Kerry and Secretary Ernest Moniz for their leadership in these negotiations. We are not the only party to this Agreement and we are well aware that all other nations in the negotiation are ready and willing to sign the JCPOA. They are also ready to resume commercial relations with Iran, which will effectively remove economic sanctions, the stick which initially brought them to the table. Our leadership role demands that we follow through with the terms of this Agreement and continue to be at the helm of monitoring Iran. We must never walk away from our commitment to peace in the region and our alliance with Israel. If we walk away now, however, we have no voice. We isolate not only our leaders, but also our nation.

No one believes this is a perfect outcome or that we have entered with complete faith in the other side. As a lawyer, I understand that no party is ever completely satisfied with agreements such as this. I am particularly concerned that the Agreement will require lifting the sanctions against Iran, which has been our main enforcement measure. Iran stands to recover approximately \$100 billion once released from previously imposed sanctions. If we reject this deal, we waive any leverage to ensure the money is not used to advance a regime that would threaten our national and international security. I will work with my col-

leagues in Congress and the Administration as we ensure Iran abides by the terms of the Agreement and uses the money to promote economic stability globally and within the region.

I have met with my constituents including those from both the Muslim and Jewish communities and am thankful for their thoughts on this subject, and even more so for their commitment to uplift the people of the Virgin Islands, our country and the world.

Most important to this decision is my fear that military action would be the likely alternative to rejecting the Agreement, and my constituents—mostly underserved and unemployed minorities—will be the individuals to bear the brunt of the fight. As the Representative of a community that serves in our Nation's military in greater proportion than most communities on the mainland, and as a mother of three service-age sons, I cannot support this outcome.

On this anniversary of the attack of September 11, 2001, and our nation's subsequent decision to enter war, we see that we must exhaust every option before entering war and suffering the casualties of such conflicts, which rob us of the most precious resource of our nation; our people. The alternative to not supporting the Agreement is not a viable option for our nation. We as leaders must work diligently for peace in the Middle East, and to ensure we protect the interests of Israel, our most trusted ally in the region.

I believe that President Obama has secured enough votes in the Senate to advance the Agreement, and hope we in Washington will now focus on efforts towards addressing and improving our long-term infrastructure needs, maintaining our social safety net system, alleviating the continued inequities in this great country, and uplifting the lives of all Americans.

H.R. 3460

**HON. BRAD SHERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 15, 2015*

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I voted against H.R. 3460. I regret that this bill was brought to the floor without even a discussion, let alone a markup, in the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Had it been marked up in the House Foreign Affairs Committee, I would have offered an amendment to strike the date so that the President's authority to waive sanctions was either eliminated entirely or eliminated for three years or five years. Unfortunately the text of the bill implies that the next president will be more capable of making decisions regarding Iran than the current president. I have disagreed with President Obama on Iran policy, but I think it is absurd to assume that the next president will make better policy, especially when we have no idea who that individual will be.

## TRIBUTE TO MR. RICHARD BERELLE ASH

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 15, 2015*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, Mr. Richard Berelle Ash is celebrating thirty (30) years of serving others in the Georgia Department of Community Health; and

Whereas, Mr. Ash retires this year, he has served as an Operations Manager, Property Officer, Fleet Manager and Records Manager for the state of Georgia and he has provided stellar leadership and service throughout the state; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious man is an ambassador of goodwill; as a pastor and community advocate, he has given hope to the hopeless, fed the hungry and has been a beacon of light to those in need; and

Whereas, Mr. Ash is a man of compassion, a fearless leader and a servant to all, but most of all a visionary who has shared his time and talent to promote community development around the state of Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mr. Richard Berelle Ash as he celebrates thirty years of service and to salute him as he retires from the Georgia Department of Community Health; A true Man of Excellence; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim July 30, 2015 as Mr. Richard Berelle Ash Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 30th day of July, 2015.

## STATEMENT RECOGNIZING TRAIN HEROES

**HON. AMI BERA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 15, 2015*

Mr. BERA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commend the bravery of three young men with ties to Sacramento County. While on a train to Paris, childhood friends Alek Skarlatos, Anthony Sadler, and Spencer Stone sprang into action to stop a man storming through their cabin carrying an automatic weapon and a box cutter. Their quick action saved the people onboard that train and their bravery has inspired our country.

As we recognize their heroism, the incident is also a reminder that terrorist threats are everywhere. These three men took bold action to protect others from harm and I commend the sacrifice they were willing to make to protect those around them.

The three met while attending Freedom Christian School in Fair Oaks. Sadler and Stone attended Del Campo High School and

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

were active in their community. Skarlatos moved to Oregon, but the trio stayed in touch. They were on a European vacation when the gunman burst into their cabin.

As an Oregon Army National Guardsman, Army Spc. Alek Skarlatos had recently returned from Afghanistan. He was first to sound the alarm, telling his friends, "let's go" as they moved to subdue the gunman.

Anthony Sadler, a senior at Sacramento State University, said his first instinct was to help and he rushed toward the man.

And Airman 1st Class Spencer Stone of the U.S. Air Force was the first to get to the gunman. He was slashed while trying to disarm the man. As a trained Emergency Medical Technician, his injury didn't stop him from administering care to some of the passengers who had been wounded. Stone has been nominated for the Airman's Medal, the Air Force's highest non-combat award.

These men were faced with a dangerous threat and in that moment chose to act. It is a testament to their bravery and their service to their country. It is my pleasure to formally recognize the actions they took to save others.

The parade in their honor will be held on September 11, 2015 in Sacramento. It's a fitting date to welcome them home and honor their heroism. The story of these three men is a reminder that everyone can be a hero. Thank you Alek, Anthony, and Spencer: you have made your hometown proud and inspired our country.

#### TRIBUTE TO MR. HUGH FLOYD WILLIAMS

### HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 15, 2015*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, Mr. Hugh Floyd Williams is celebrating forty (40) years of serving others in the Peace Corps as a volunteer for two years (1974–1976) and with the State Department for thirty-eight years (1977–2015); and

Whereas, Mr. Williams retired this year with the rank of Minister-Counselor from the State Department wherein under his guidance as a Foreign Service Officer, he has provided stellar leadership on an international level, he has enhanced the lives of many in Sierra Leone, Europe, Asia, Hong Kong, Canada, Malaysia, India, Indonesia, Belgium, Jamaica and the Americas; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious man is an ambassador of goodwill; he has given hope to the hopeless, fed the hungry and is a beacon of light to those in need; and

Whereas, Mr. Williams is a man of compassion, a fearless leader and a servant to all, but most of all a visionary who has shared his time and talent to promote diplomacy around the world representing our great nation; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mr. Hugh Floyd Williams as he celebrates forty years in service and to salute him as he retires from the State Department; A true Man of Excellence; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim July 23, 2015 as Mr. Hugh Floyd Williams Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 23rd day of July, 2015.

#### HONORING THE PERMIAN BASIN HONOR FLIGHT

### HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 15, 2015*

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 93 Veterans from West Texas who will be visiting our Washington D.C. this week, sponsored by the Permian Basin Honor Flight. On behalf of a grateful state and nation, we welcome these heroes to the nation's capital.

The Veterans on this Honor Flight are: Clint Adams, Alberto Alavartez Jr., Clark Bagley, Joe Banks, Michael Barker, Victor Barros, James Bedingfield, Carlton Blackwell, Herbert Blankingship, James Block, Grady Blocker, Wilbur Boone, Thomas Bostick Sr., Raymond Boswell, Harold Brenner, Wendell Brown, Billy Brown, Mike Brown, Dr. Joseph Bruner, Daniel Bullen, Robert Cole, Jennifer Conkin, Richard Cortez, Doyle Dewayne Dobbs, Ernest Elkins, Ronald Emmons, Robert Fields, Daniel Fischer, Richard Galloway, Wade Gamblin, Ralph Gillette, John Graves, Eldon Griffis, Michael Henderson, Gary Hokerk, Wayne Hokerk, Rex Holland, Timothy Humpherys, Billy Hunte, Joe Jackson, Roger Johnston, Herman Jones, Bobby Kizer, Charles Linebarger, Teresa Lopez, Delfin Lopez, Michael Lopez, Raymond Lusk, Darcy Maloney, Robert Middaugh, Scott Morris Sr., Scott Morris Jr., Ira Overton, Carlos Padilla, Salvatore Pagano, Preston Parrott, Newton Peterson, Julian Pressey, TJ Price, Donald Price, Emil Raschke, Edward Reel, Winifred Richmond, Sifredo Rodriguez, Frank Rodriguez, Pedro Ruiz, Richardo Saldana, Thomas Salgado, Erene Sanchez, Simon Sanchez, Jerry Sides, Georgia Simcik, Claude Smith, Melvin Smith, Tommy Smith, Steve Stone, Rachel Stout, William Sudduth, Bobby Jean Swinney, William Tapley, Leslie Tidwell, Charl Trantham, Veron Trent, Teddy Trogdon, Henry Tuck, Randy Vest, Orlando Villanueva, Donald Waldrop, Gary Watkins, Mark Webb, David Whitten, Grady Wilkerson, Robert Williamson, William Wrenn.

Mr. Speaker, I am humbled to have the opportunity to meet these brave men and women who exemplify the best of our country. Their sacrifice and commitment to the duty to our nation can never be fully repaid, and I hope that when they visit our nation's monuments in Washington D.C., the gratitude and respect we have for them will truly be reflected.

Colleagues, please join me in thanking these veterans and their families for their exemplary dedication and service to this great nation. I would also like to extend a special thank you to the local communities, all of the volunteers, and Mr. Jeremy West and Mr. John West for their extensive work in organizing this Honor Flight. This trip would not have been possible without all the financial and emotional support of the people who have put in so much hard work and personal time to make sure this trip could be possible.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE WEBB-HUDSON FAMILY

### HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 15, 2015*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, the Webb-Hudson family lineage has blessed us with descendants that have helped to shape our nation; and

Whereas, the Webb-Hudson Family has produced many well respected citizens, and the patriarchs and matriarchs of the Webb-Hudson family are pillars of strength that have touched the lives of many; and

Whereas, in our beloved Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, we are honored to have members of the Webb-Hudson family such as Former Lithonia Mayor Marcia Hunter, Former Lithonia Police Chief Jerome Woods, former Lithonia Councilperson Barbara Lester, Rockdale County Sheriff Deputy A.G. Giles, DeKalb County Court Clerk Drucilla Woods and Mrs. LaVerne Woods Baker for they are some of our most honorable citizens in our District; and

Whereas, family is one of the most honored and cherished institutions in the world and we take pride in knowing that families such as the Webb-Hudson family have set aside this time to fellowship with each other, honor one another and to pass along history to each other through their family reunion in DeKalb County, Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize the Webb-Hudson family; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim July 11, 2015 as Webb-Hudson Family Reunion Day In the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 11th day of July, 2015.

#### TRIBUTE TO RICHARD CAMPBELL

### HON. JOHN R. MOOLENAAR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 15, 2015*

Mr. MOOLENAAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Owosso Argus-Press editor and chairman Richard Campbell in recognition of his lifetime of contributions to Owosso, Shiawassee County and our great state.

A 1946 Owosso High School Graduate, Richard attended the University of Michigan and was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps. Richard's 20 years in the Marines included serving as a platoon commander during the Korean War, leading a battalion of Marines to Vietnam in 1966, and touring as a senior press officer of the Military Assistance Command-Vietnam.

After retiring as a colonel in 1972, Campbell returned to the family business in Owosso and started work at the Argus-Press. At the paper, he worked in advertising and news, before being named editor in 1973. Richard was known for his great attention to detail, his enthusiasm for pursuing stories, and the way he cared about his staff. He dedicated over 40 years to the Argus-Press and, though he attempted several times to retire, he always