

at sea within Vietnam's borders serving in some capacity during the conflict. As a grateful nation, we honor more than 58,000 patriots who paid the ultimate sacrifice during this difficult and painful period; and

Whereas, of the 7,391,000 Vietnam veterans, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs estimates that roughly 106,148 reside in Louisiana. In the half century since the official beginning of the Vietnam War, our nation has grappled with the sensitive effects of this struggle which accompanies all wars. Yet, we remain thankful to those who fought in this conflict and honor the legacy of service that they built; and

Whereas, the freedom and liberties we are blessed to enjoy today are a direct result of the courage, devotion, and sacrifice of the members of our Armed Forces. We are grateful for their brave service and draw inspiration and pride from all that they are; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana hereby recognizes November 13, 2013, through November 11, 2025, as the commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War.

HONORING MARY ANN NIHART

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 4, 2017

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mary Ann Nihart for her eight years of service on the Pacifica City Council. Her tireless commitment to her community has improved this wonderful coastal town for residents and visitors alike. Her service even helped shine a national spotlight on Pacifica. I am proud to count Mary Ann as a constituent, colleague and friend.

Mary Ann was first elected to the council in 2008 and served as mayor in 2011 and 2014. She was also the C/CAG representative to Pacifica, the Fog Fest Liaison, and she served on the North Coast County Fire JPA. Her council committee assignments included the Financing City Services committee, Economic Development, the Beautification Advisory Committee, and the Articulation Committee. Pacifica's quality of life was greatly improved through her representation on the San Mateo County Transportation Authority and at the Association of Bay Area Governments.

As mayor, Mary Ann re-instituted Mayor's Walks to personally connect local business owners with the city government and city staff. She also reinstated the Economic Development Committee to develop an economic plan for Pacifica. She helped her town receive transportation funding for shuttle services and street paving. She initiated and led the Beautification Task Force which designated 25 sites for make-overs. To date, nine of them have been completed. Among her proudest accomplishments was a city-wide effort to have Pacifica designated as one of the most scenic cities in America. The town was one of six finalists in the country.

Another of Mary Ann's priorities has been environmental protection. She initiated the process to designate Pedro Point Headlands as a priority conservation area and worked to complete the coastal trail from Pacifica to Devil's Slide, a San Mateo County Park with some of the country's most phenomenal ocean bluff views. She helped ban plastic bags and foam containers in Pacifica and supported protections for the Western Snowy Plover, a tiny shore bird listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act.

During her tenure, Mary Ann continually strove to bring community members together and to heal divides. This may be explained by the outstanding professional experience she brought to the council. Mary Ann is the Clinical Director and Chief Nurse of Mental Health Services at the San Francisco Veterans Affairs Health Care System. She holds a BSN and two Masters degrees in Nursing and in Clinical Psychology. Her passion to help veterans is noteworthy. There are thousands of veterans who owe their mental health in part to her management of outstanding psychiatric mental health treatment at our VA. Through her efforts and those of her colleagues, lives are saved each year. Mary Ann is also an Associate Clinical Professor at the University of California, San Francisco, and a past president of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association which honored her with the Psychiatric Nurse of the Year Award in 2012.

Mary Ann speaks nationally and internationally on the integration of biology into psychiatric nursing care, crisis intervention and de-escalation. She brought those skills to the coast after two tragic police shootings of mentally ill individuals in Pacifica and neighboring Half Moon Bay. She worked with local law enforcement to provide additional education and to amend the training for officers encountering mentally ill individuals in violent situations.

As you can surmise from this long yet incomplete list of accomplishments, Mary Ann Nihart is incredibly capable and gets things done. She will retire from the city council due to a flaw in federal law that I intend to fix. I for one will miss working with her on issues that connect local and federal jurisdictions, such as human trafficking, sea level rise and veterans' health.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the members of the House of Representatives to join me in honoring an outstanding professional and public servant who has left her mark on the community she loves. A leader with a big heart and a welcoming smile, Mary Ann Nihart's work is tightly woven into the fabric of Pacifica, a coastal community that I am very fortunate to represent.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate com-

mittees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, January 5, 2017 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's record.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JANUARY 10

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine civilian control of the Armed Forces. SH-216

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Jeff Sessions, of Alabama, to be Attorney General, Department of Justice. SR-325

10 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

To hold hearings to examine backpage.com's facilitation of online sex trafficking. SD-342

JANUARY 11

9:30 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

To continue hearings to examine the nomination of Jeff Sessions, of Alabama, to be Attorney General, Department of Justice. SR-325

10 a.m.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Betsy DeVos, of Michigan, to be Secretary of Education. SD-430

10:15 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Elaine L. Chao, to be Secretary of Transportation. SR-253

2 p.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of General John F. Kelly, USA (Ret.), to be Secretary of Homeland Security. SD-342