

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. ERICA  
SARGENT

**HON. DAVID G. VALADAO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 5, 2017*

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Mrs. Erica Sargent for her service to my office and the people of California's 21st Congressional District.

Mrs. Sargent was born on May 30, 1990 in Los Banos, California, where she grew up on her family's dairy farm with her parents, Joey and Charlotte Mello, her sister Trisha, and her brother Michael. As a child, Erica took part in Future Farmers of America, where she showed dairy cows, Holsteins, Jerseys, and swine.

After graduating from Los Banos High School, Mrs. Sargent went on to receive her Bachelor's Degree in Agriculture Business at California State University, Fresno in 2013. While in college, Erica was a member of Delta Gamma Sorority and worked as a nanny part-time. On September 3, 2016, Erica married her husband Brandon Sargent.

Mrs. Sargent has held several positions with my office, in both Washington, D.C. and California over the past 4 years. She first joined my team as Staff Assistant in my Washington, D.C. office in July 2013. As Staff Assistant, she was instrumental in supporting others in daily tasks and helping the office run smoothly. In December 2013, she was promoted to Scheduler. Mrs. Sargent relocated from Washington, D.C. back to California's Central Valley, where she remained on my team as a

Field Representative in Fresno County. Mrs. Sargent was known for her hard work and excellent community outreach. She was respected by her peers and was able to create and foster connections with constituents, business leaders, and public officials, all of which are integral skills of congressional staffers.

Outside of work, Erica enjoys spending time with her family, especially her husband, sister, and niece, Sofia. She is currently pursuing a Master's Degree from National University and hopes to become a school counselor.

Mrs. Sargent's time with my office will come to a close today, January 5, 2017, when she leaves to begin an internship in Laton, California, as a school counselor. Knowing Mrs. Sargent, her character, and her work ethic, I have no doubt that she will achieve many great things in her future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in commending Mrs. Erica Sargent for her public service to the people of the Central Valley and wishing her well as she embarks on the next chapter of her life.

HOUSTON METHODIST SUGAR  
LAND HOSPITAL EARNS AN "A"

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 5, 2017*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital for earning an "A" for patient safety for the sixth year in a row.

Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital prides itself on the dedication of its physicians, nurses, technicians and staff to keep patients as healthy and safe as possible. Twice a year the Hospital Safety Score, part of The Leapfrog Group, grades hospitals based on how well they protect patients from errors, injuries, accidents and infections while in the hospital. Houston Methodist Sugar Land was one of 844 hospitals across the nation to earn an "A" grade in the fall 2016 survey.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital for earning an "A" for patient safety. We all benefit from their commitment to quality healthcare and we thank them for their hard work to keep Houstonians healthy.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LYNN JENKINS**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 5, 2017*

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I was absent on Roll Call Votes 12 through 23 on the evening of January 5, 2017.

I am an original cosponsor of H.R. 26, the Regulations in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2017. I would have voted against all amendments that would weaken the underlying legislation, would have voted in favor of amendments that strengthen the underlying legislation, and would have voted in favor of final passage of this important legislation.