

Though we have lost a champion and advocate for Santa Monica, I hope that her family and friends take comfort in the way Louise lived her life as an accomplished and astounding woman. May her memory be a blessing to us all.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF MICHELE Y. EVANS FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 6, 2017*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize my constituent, Michele Y. Evans, for her recent retirement from the Government Publishing Office after 29 years of service. Ms. Evans began her career at GPO in October 1987 as a Supply Clerk in the Springbelt Warehouse in Springfield, Virginia. In 1991, she became a Micrographics Tech and in 1993 she was promoted to Supervisory Micrographics Tech before eventually assuming the position of Publications Manager Specialist.

In 2004, Michele joined the Apprenticeship Program, which trained her as Printer, Proofer, and Journey Person. In 2006, after graduating from the Apprenticeship program, Michele went to work in the proof room, where she worked in copy/mark-up and night side/bill end. In 2010, Michele was selected for the GPO detailee program, and was attached to the Office of the Clerk, Office of Legislative Operations, House Enrolling section. Her dedication and disposition made her a perfect fit for the section, and her attention to detail and years of experience made Michele an invaluable member of the enrolling team.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ms. Evans on her retirement and in thanking her for her years of service to this chamber as she returns to her hometown of Jacksonville, North Carolina to start the next chapter of her life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 6, 2017*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and unable to attend session on Friday, February 3, due to personal reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted no on H.J. Res. 36, roll call No. 78, which provided for congressional disapproval of President Obama's Methane Waste Prevention Rule.

I am outraged by House Republican efforts to overturn substantial environmental policies of the Obama Administration, including and especially the Methane Waste Prevention Rule. This rule caps, for the first time, the amount of methane that oil and gas producers operating under federal leases are allowed to "flare," or burn as waste. It also prohibits operators from releasing or "venting" natural gas into the atmosphere, and requires them to replace equipment that allows large amounts of methane to "bleed" into the air. This rule would result in 175,000 to 180,000 fewer tons

of methane emissions each year, which is equivalent to removing nearly 1 million vehicles from our roads.

As a leading member on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, I have long been a champion for a cleaner, healthier environment for all New Yorkers and the American people. I have relentlessly fought to close Indian Point, oppose the Spectra Algonquin Pipeline, and resist the plan to anchor barges carrying crude oil along the Hudson River.

I will continue fighting to stop Republicans in Congress from undermining our environmental regulations and turning back the clock to a time when corporations could pollute unchecked.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 582, KARI'S LAW ACT OF 2017

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 6, 2017*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 582, the Kari's Law Act of 2017, which amends the Communications Act of 1934 to require multi-line telephone systems to have a configuration that permits users to directly initiate a call 9-1-1 without dialing any additional digit, code, prefix, or post-fix.

As a senior member of the House Committees on Homeland Security and Judiciary, I am well aware of the importance of 9-1-1 services and some of the challenges of E-9-1-1 to ensure that those seeking emergency assistance receive the help they need.

H.R. 582 would create parity for landline 9-1-1 services and smartphone E9-1-1 services so that emergency assistance request from either is treated the same.

The bill requires that those engaged in the manufacturing, importation, sale, and lease of telecommunication service or devices pre-configured technology to dial 9-1-1.

The goal of H.R. 582 is to ensure that all emergency calls regardless of the source are routed properly to emergency services.

Kari's Law is not intended to alter the authority of State commissions or other State or local agencies with jurisdiction over emergency communications.

The establishment of the Kari's Law Act acknowledges the importance of the configuration of multi-line telephones systems for direct dialing for 9-1-1.

Over the past two decades, the personal communications of Americans have changed.

The Wireless Association reported that the penetration of cellular devices surpassed 100 percent in 2012, and as of the latest 2014 report, penetration is now at 110 percent.

According to the Pew Research Center, 68 percent of U.S. adults have a smartphone, up from 35 percent in 2011, and tablet computer ownership has edged up to 45 percent among adults, according to newly released survey data from the Pew Research Center.

Smartphone ownership is nearing the saturation point with some groups: 86 percent of those ages 18-29 have a smartphone, as do 83 percent of those ages 30-49 and 87 percent of those living in households earning \$75,000 and up annually.

With so many mobile devices deployed the majority of calls to 9-1-1 emergency public

safety answering points (PSAP) originate from them.

U.S. emergency dispatch agencies report that wireless callers are responsible for at least 80 percent of their emergency call volume.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to Support H.R. 582, Kari's Law Act of 2017.

WELCOME ANYA CHIRAG SHAH

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 6, 2017*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to congratulate Chirag Shah and his wife, Sejal, on the birth of their daughter. Anya Chirag Shah was born at 6:18 p.m. on Sunday, January 15, 2017, at Georgetown University Medical Center in Washington, D.C. Anya weighed eight pounds and eleven ounces and measured 21 inches long. She is the first child for the happy couple and I look forward to watching her grow as she is raised by talented parents who will be dedicated to her well-being and bright future.

I would also like to congratulate Anya's grandparents, Kamal and Jagruti Shah of Mequon, Wisconsin, and Vikram and Kalpana Bavishi of Secaucus, New Jersey. Congratulations to the entire Shah and Bavishi families as they welcome their newest addition of pure pride and joy.

TRIBUTE TO STEVE MANOS

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 6, 2017*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Lake Elsinore in Riverside County, California are exceptional. On Saturday, February 11, 2017 Steve Manos will be honored as the Citizen of the Year by the Lake Elsinore Chamber of Commerce.

Born in Santa Monica and raised in Lake Elsinore, Steve is a 29-year Lake Elsinore resident. In 2012, Steve was elected to serve as a Council Member for the City of Lake Elsinore, for which he served as Mayor in 2015. As an elected official Steve serves on several regional organizations. He has served as Chair of the Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency, Commissioner on the Airport Land Use Commission, and represents all of the cities in the County of Riverside as the State Director for the League of California Cities. During his term Steve was proud to improve public safety by voting to staff and reopen the Rosetta Canyon Fire Station and add peace officers to the City's police force.

Steve has a great passion for economic development and during his term he has actively recruited new businesses—hundreds of new businesses have opened in Lake Elsinore since 2012, bringing over one thousand new jobs. He has been a relentless, unapologetic ambassador for the City. Steve is a devoted volunteer and charitable contributor having served at the local school district, his church,