

leading these two prominent Colorado organizations that are often heard on topics related to improvements for the 1–70 highway corridor and the future positioning of ski resorts located in municipalities, having served as both Boards' Presidents.

Zemler has been successful in working with his elected officials and community to strategically achieve results that speak to their vision of 1) growing a balanced community; 2) enhancing the town's economy; and 3) elevating the resort experience; all of which have a direct impact on the people who live, work and play in the area, and has resulted in Vail's success in becoming North America's Premier International Mountain Resort Community.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Stan Zemler on behalf of the residents of the 2nd Congressional District and myself. His distinguished service and contributions to the Town of Vail and municipal governments in the State of Colorado will remain his legacy for many years to come.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Paperwork Reduction Act, to eliminate the wasteful congressional review process for legislation passed by the District of Columbia Council and to align longtime congressional practice and the law. The congressional review process for D.C. bills is almost entirely ignored by Congress, providing it no benefit, but imposes substantial costs, in time and money, on the District. Congress has almost always used the appropriations process rather than the disapproval process to block or nullify D.C.'s legislation, and entirely abandoned the congressional review process as its mechanism for nullifying D.C. legislation 24 years ago, having only used it three times before then. Yet Congress still requires the D.C. Council to use Kafkaesque make-work procedures to comply with the abandoned congressional review process established by the Home Rule Act of 1973.

Our bill would eliminate the congressional review process for legislation passed by the D.C. Council. However, Congress would lose no authority it currently exercises because, even upon enactment of this bill, Congress would retain its authority under clause 17 of section 8 of article I of the U.S. Constitution to amend or overturn any D.C. legislation at any time.

The congressional review process, 30 days for civil bills and 60 days for criminal bills, includes those days when either house of Congress is in session, delaying D.C. bills from becoming law often for many months. The delay forces the D.C. Council to pass most bills several times, using a cumbersome and complicated process to ensure that the operations of this large and rapidly changing city continue uninterrupted, avoiding a lapse of the bill before it becomes final. The congressional calendar means that a 30-day period usually lasts a couple of months and often much longer because of congressional recesses.

The congressional review period for a bill that changed the word handicap to disability lasted nine months. The Council estimates that 50 to 65 percent of the bills it passes could be eliminated if the review period did not exist. To ensure that a bill becomes law, the Council often must pass the same legislation in three forms: emergency (in effect for 90 days), temporary (in effect for 225 days) and permanent. Moreover, the Council has to carefully track the days the House and Senate are in session for each D.C. bill it passes to avoid gaps and to determine when the bills have taken effect. The Council estimates that it could save 5,000 employee-hours and 160,000 sheets of paper per two-year Council period if the review period were eliminated. House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy addressed the issue of saving such resources by eliminating the amount of paperwork sent to Congress when he proposed a cut in the number of reports that federal agencies are required to submit to Congress. Our bill is a perfect candidate because it eliminates a paperwork process that repeats itself without interruption.

My bill would do no more than align the Home Rule Act with congressional practice over the last 24 years. Of the more than 5,000 legislative acts transmitted to Congress since the Home Rule Act, only three resolutions disapproving D.C. legislation have been enacted (in 1979, 1981, and 1991) and two of those mistakenly involved federal interests, one in the Height Act and the other in the location of chanceries. Placing a congressional hold on 5,000 D.C. bills has not only proven unnecessary, but has imposed costs on the D.C. government, residents and businesses. District residents and businesses are also placed on hold because they have no certainty when D.C. bills, from taxes to regulations, will take effect, making it difficult to plan. Instead of using the congressional review process to nullify D.C. legislation, Congress has preferred to use riders to appropriations bills. Therefore, it is particularly unfair to require the D.C. Council to engage in this labor-intensive and costly process. My bill would only eliminate the automatic hold placed on D.C. legislation and the need for the D.C. Council to comply with a process initially created for the convenience of Congress, but that is now rarely used. This bill would promote efficiency and cost savings for Congress, the District, its residents, and businesses without reducing congressional oversight, and would carry out a policy stressed by Congress of eliminating needless paperwork and make-work redundancy.

I urge my colleagues to support this good-government measure.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN JENKINS

OF KANSAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I was absent for roll call votes 129 through 132 on the evening of March 8, 2017. I would have voted in favor of both votes which would provide for consideration of H.R. 725, the Innocent Party Protection Act. I would have also voted in favor of H. Res. 174 on ordering the previous question and providing for consideration of H.R. 1301, the Department of Defense

Appropriations Act of 2017. Lastly, I would have voted against the motion to adjourn.

Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 129, YEA on Roll Call No. 130, YEA on Roll Call No. 131, and NAY on Roll Call No. 132.

RECOGNIZING MRS. NAOMI COLWELL

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to recognize the long career and dedicated public service of Mrs. Naomi Colwell, recently selected as the new President and CEO of the Greater Brighton Chamber of Commerce, in Brighton, Colorado.

Naomi is an accomplished executive-level business development professional with over 18 years of chamber of commerce and visitor bureau experience. She has been serving with the Aurora Chamber of Commerce where she successfully ran the Visitors Promotion Advisory Board, and has been responsible for starting 'Our Young Professionals', and 'Women in Business' programs. Her extensive knowledge and background brings essential leadership and guidance to take the Greater Brighton Chamber of Commerce to the next level and to provide the services and programs that will work to assist all of its members.

It is my honor to congratulate Naomi Colwell today, and I take pride in recognizing a great American and public servant.

TRIBUTE TO MR. MARK S. DAVIS

HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a prominent Hoosier leader and my dear friend, Mr. Mark S. Davis, who passed away on March 4, 2017 surrounded by his loving family.

Mark was born in Kansas City, Missouri before moving to West Lafayette as a child. He graduated from West Lafayette High School and earned his law degree from the Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law. He began his career working in economic development in Indianapolis, Greater Lafayette, and Flint, Michigan before opening law practice in Lafayette.

Mark cared deeply for our community and it showed in what he was able to help the community thrive. He was one of many of a dedicated team to convince Subaru of Indiana Automotive to locate in Tippecanoe County nearly 30 years ago. This effort led to the creation of thousands of jobs and an incredible impact to our economy. Mark was a vocal proponent of the Hoosier Heartland Corridor, the 36-mile highway upgrade which has improved access and safety while bolstering economic development in several Central Indiana counties.

Mark was a man of high character and integrity. He had a servant's heart for his fellow