

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

Hoosiers and frequently worked pro bono legal cases for the less fortunate. I never met someone who had anything but positive comments about Mark. He was active in the Rotary Club of Lafayette Indiana and in the Tippecanoe Republican Party, where he served as Party Secretary. Just last summer Mark arranged for me to speak with the Rotary Club where he graciously introduced me before my remarks.

Mark leaves Mary Kay, his beloved wife, four daughters, and eight grandchildren to carry on his legacy of service to fellow Hoosiers. Anyone who knew him well knows what a great loss his passing is for our community and the State of Indiana. May Mark rest in peace. He will not be forgotten.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RO KHANNA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Speaker, due to a scheduling miscommunication, I missed Roll Call vote 136 in the House yesterday afternoon of Wednesday, March 8th. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on roll call No. 136, H.R. 1301, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2017.

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 133 through 137 on the evening of March 8, 2017. I would have voted in favor of H. Res. 174 which would provide for consideration of H.R. 1310, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act of 2017. I would have voted against roll call votes 134 and 135 to adjourn. I would have voted in favor of H.R. 1310. Lastly, I would have voted in favor of roll call vote 137 to adjourn.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 133, NAY on Roll Call No. 134, NAY on Roll Call No. 135, YEA on Roll Call No. 136, and YEA on Roll Call No. 137.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, due to my attendance at an event off the Capitol Hill campus, I was unable to make Roll Call vote No. 135. Had I been present, I would have voted Aye.

RECOGNIZING THE LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS CARLA HAYDEN

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I want to recognize the historic appointment of Ms. Carla Hayden to the post of Librarian of Congress. This is so significant because although more than eighty percent of librarians nationwide are females, the position of Librarian of Congress has been held exclusively by men, until Carla Hayden was appointed by Barack Obama in 2016.

Carla Hayden was enamored by books and reading from an early age, and began her career as a librarian in Chicago at the Museum of Science and Industry and the Chicago Public Library. It was during her time in Chicago that she met Barack and Michelle Obama.

After her impressive time in Chicago, Ms. Hayden left the windy city to take the position of Director at the Enoch Pratt Free Library, the public library system in Baltimore, Maryland. It was here that Ms. Hayden showed her true leadership as she improved and maintained an enormous public library operation. After the death of Freddie Gray, Ms. Hayden made the difficult decision to keep the Baltimore public libraries open in order to encourage people to use safe spaces and avoid violence. It is strong leadership like this that made her an excellent choice to become Librarian of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday, we celebrated International Women's Day, and I cannot think of a better way to acknowledge this day than by recognizing Carla Hayden, a pioneering woman of color whose very job will allow stories like hers to be told forever.

IN MEMORIAM OF LAURA HOGAN

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a native Arizonan, a tireless community organizer and a valued member of the Southern Arizona political community. Laura Hogan passed away on February 24 in Tucson, Arizona. Laura was born in the small border town of Douglas, Arizona and she loved rural Arizona. She attended Michigan State University but returned to Arizona after graduation to work with former Superintendent of Public Instruction Carolyn Warner on educational policy and consulting.

Laura's passion was the working families of Arizona. She served as Field Director for the Pima Area Labor Federation, helping to organize and mobilize the labor community in Tucson to support candidates at the local, county, state and federal levels. She took that experience to Arizona List in 2007 where she served as the Political Director since. She simply loved to train and support women in their run for elected office. She has mentored countless young women and helped them plan and achieve their dreams of public service.

Laura was also active in the local Democratic Party, serving as the Chair of Legislative

District 30 and a Vice-Chair of the Arizona Democratic Party. She was inducted into the Arizona Democratic Party Hall of Fame in 2016.

I considered Laura a friend and a colleague in the Arizona political community. She was widely respected and admired for her hard work and dedication to her values. She will be greatly missed. I join the Arizona labor community, Democratic Party and Arizona List family in remembering Laura and working to ensure her legacy lives on through our work.

INTRODUCTION OF SEAT EGRESS IN AIR TRAVEL (SEAT) ACT

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced, along with my colleague Rep. ADAM KINZINGER, the Seat Egress in Air Travel (SEAT) Act, which would direct the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to establish minimum seat size standards necessary to ensure the safety and health of airplane passengers. The bill would also require each airline to display the space available (size, width, and distance between rows) for each passenger on the airline website. The bill was introduced in the Senate today by Senator RICHARD BLUMENTHAL, Minority Leader CHUCK SCHUMER and Senators ED MARKEY and BOB MENENDEZ.

Consumers are tired of being squeezed. The average seat distance between rows of seats has dropped from 35 inches before airline deregulation in the 1970s to about 31 inches today. The average width of an airline seat has also shrunk from 18 inches to about 16½.

This isn't just a matter of comfort. It is about safety and health. The FAA requires that planes be capable of rapid evacuation in case of emergency. Furthermore, doctors warn of deep vein thrombosis which can afflict passengers who don't move their legs enough on longer flights.

Moreover, average seat sizes have been shrinking while the average size of Americans has been growing. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the average man in 1960 weighed 166 pounds, and the average woman weighed 140 pounds. Now the average man is 196 pounds and the average woman is 166 pounds, and both are about an inch taller.

This just doesn't make any sense.

I hope that Congress will quickly act on this bill to direct the FAA to establish minimum seat size standards to protect the safety and health of airline passengers.

INTRODUCTION OF NO TRUMP ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, the presidency should not be a get-rich-quick scheme. No president or presidential family should be able to exploit the Oval Office to get rich or become even wealthier.