

Had I been present, I would have voted the following on April 3, 2017:

Roll Call 209 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, H. Res. 92, Condemning North Korea's development of multiple intercontinental ballistic missiles, and for other purposes, I would have voted Aye.

Roll Call 210 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, H.R. 479, North Korea State Sponsor of Terrorism Designation Act of 2017, I would have voted Aye.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROBERT PITTENGER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

Mr. PITTENGER. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from votes on Tuesday, March 28. Had I been present, I would have opposed S.J. Res. 34, and voted NAY on Roll Call No. 202.

PERLA BARRÓN

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Perla Barrón for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Perla Barrón is a 12th grader at North Valley School for Young Adults and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Perla Barrón is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Perla Barrón for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE 2017 TOWN OF VIENNA POLICE DEPARTMENT VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding group of men and women in Northern Virginia. These individuals have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and have been awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce.

This is the 39th Annual Valor Awards sponsored by the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce. This event honors the remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety officers. Our public

safety and law enforcement personnel put their lives on the line every day to keep our families and neighborhoods safe. This year's ceremony will present 125 awards to recognize extraordinary actions above and beyond the call of duty in a variety of categories including the Lifesaving Certificate, the Certificate of Valor, and the Bronze and Silver Medals of Valor.

Five members of the Town of Vienna Police Department are being honored this year for their exceptional service. It is with great pride that I include in the RECORD the names of the following Valor Award Recipients:

BRONZE MEDAL OF VALOR

Master Police Officer Neil Patrick Shaw  
Police Officer Andrew Slebonick

LIFESAVING AWARD

Sergeant Michael Reeves  
Master Police Officer Matthew Lyons  
Police Officer Gregory Hylinski

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2017 Valor Award Recipients, and thank all of the men and women who serve in the Town of Vienna Police Department. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of our community, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

RECOGNIZING ESTHER WARD'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. MARK WALKER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding constituent on her 100th birthday—Esther Ward of Randolph County.

I am pleased to share in the momentous celebration of her 100th birthday, and I am honored to acknowledge this joyous milestone, filled with memories and experiences. It is not only a time of happiness, but a time to reflect on the lives Esther has enriched. In particular, Esther continues to be a pillar of her church, Hopewell Friends Meeting of Asheboro. North Carolina has been truly fortunate to share in her long legacy of achievement.

I join with her family, friends, church and the Sixth District in congratulating Esther on this special occasion.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. ABRAHAM FISCHLER

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and work of my good friend and a most dedicated public servant, Dr. Abraham "Abe" Fischler, who, sadly, passed away on April 3, 2017. He was 89 years old.

For 22 years, Abe Fischler was President of Nova Southeastern University (NSU). There were only 17 students enrolled when Abe joined NSU. He became President in 1970 and oversaw NSU's growth into the large and well-respected institution that it is today.

Abe was born in Brooklyn on January 21, 1928. He was a member of the "Greatest

Generation," serving in the United States Navy during the Second World War. He married his beloved wife of 68 years, Shirley, in 1949 and in 1951, graduated with a degree in Biochemistry from the City College of New York, eventually earning a Doctorate in Education in 1959 from Columbia University.

Among the many innovations Dr. Fischler brought to NSU was the development of a long-distance learning program. Abe thought there should be a way for professionals who wanted to pursue advanced degrees to do so without having to leave their jobs. We didn't have the prevalence of internet technologies we do now at the time, so Abe would actually have the university fly adjunct instructors to various spots around the country to teach small groups of students outside of regular business hours. At the time, this was very unusual, but today, long distance education is both common and expected at most institutions of higher learning. Abe Fischler was one of the first to do it.

In 1992, Abe retired from NSU, but he did not spend his retirement idly watching the world go by. By 1994, he was back in the thick of it, and got elected to the Broward County School Board, where he would serve for four years. He continued to be involved in educational issues, as well as his involvement with Nova Southeastern as President Emeritus until his passing.

Dr. and Shirley Fischler have four children, four grandchildren and one great-grandson. My own son holds a Doctorate from, and is part of, the Nova Southeastern Family I am honored to have worked with Abe Fischler and to have represented him in Congress. He was a wonderful friend and will be dearly missed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for roll call votes 209 and 210 Monday, April 3, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on roll call votes 209 and 210.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF JOHN WALLACE

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleagues, Mr. NUNES and Mr. VALADAO, to honor the life of one of Fresno's greatest journalists, John Wallace, who passed away on March 27, 2017 at the age of 71. John was a kind, generous, and humble man who kept the Valley informed on current events as a TV news anchor for more than 40 years.

Before his career as a TV anchor, John played baseball at the University of Arizona in the early 1960's, followed by his service in the United States Marine Corps. He began his broadcast and journalism career in 1969, joining the news staff at KYNO radio in Fresno. In