

from past and present, and look ahead to many more years of valuable service to our nation.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
LIEUTENANT COLONEL STEPHANIE
A. SIDO OF THE UNITED STATES
ARMY

**HON. AUMUA AMATA COLEMAN
RADEWAGEN**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2017

Mrs. RADEWAGEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lieutenant Colonel Stephanie A. Sido of the United States Army for her extraordinary dedication to duty and service to our nation.

Colonel Sido will soon transition from her current assignment as an Army Congressional Liaison in the House of Representatives to serve as the Troop Commander at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center. Her new unit is the largest U.S. hospital outside the United States, and serves as the sole military medical center for Europe, Middle East and Africa to our Service Members, their families, and coalition and allies troops.

A native of Grafton, Ohio, Stephanie began her military career when she was commissioned in 1999 through the University of Akron's Army ROTC Program as a Medical Service Corps Officer. Since that time she has served at all leadership levels from platoon leader to company commander. Stephanie also honorably served in multiple staff positions in combat, including two deployments to Afghanistan. She is married to Edward, a U.S. Army veteran and the proud mother to their son Patrick.

In 2016, Colonel Sido was selected to serve as Legislative Liaison to the Army House Liaison Office. In her role as a legislative liaison, Colonel Sido served as the primary liaison between Members of the 114th and 115th Congresses, their Staffs, Legislative Committees, and the U.S. Army. In this role, she planned, coordinated, and accompanied Congressional and Staff Delegations on numerous worldwide fact-finding and investigative missions, and strengthened the relationships and trust needed to continue the longstanding confidence the U.S. Congress has in the U.S. Army.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the selfless service of Lieutenant Colonel Stephanie A. Sido and her family as they proceed to the next chapter in her remarkable career and continue to serve our great nation.

INTRODUCTION OF OVERSEAS
AMERICANS FINANCIAL ACCESS
ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2017

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Overseas Americans Financial Access Act on behalf of the estimated 6–8 million American citizens living and working abroad. This bill would amend the Foreign Account Tax Compliance

Act (FATCA) to address the unintended consequences it imposes on American citizens overseas that make it more difficult to access basic banking products and services in their country of residence.

As co-chair of the Americans Abroad Caucus, for years I have heard reports from constituents overseas detailing how FATCA's expensive and duplicative reporting requirements have led foreign financial institutions to deny basic banking services to American citizens. Some Foreign Financial Institutions have simply closed accounts or refused to open new ones for U.S. citizens in order to minimize their exposure to FATCA reporting requirements, withholding fees and potential penalties. This practice leaves law-abiding American citizens without access to everyday financial tools such as mortgages, bank accounts, insurance policies and pension funds—all of which are critical services regardless of place of residence.

While I recognize the difficult job of the Treasury Department to make sure American money around the world remains compliant with the U.S. tax code, the current FATCA reporting procedures subject ordinary Americans to the same scrutiny as criminal tax evaders and money launderers. Revision of these reporting policies is necessary to ensure that Americans remain competitive in international business and continue to contribute to economies here in the U.S. and around the world. Unfortunately, some have resorted to renouncing their American citizenship in response. It is now time to act and provide relief.

The IRS Taxpayer Advocate Service (TAS) has recognized this problem and on April 13, 2015, issued a recommendation that the IRS exclude from FATCA reporting financial accounts maintained by a financial institution in the country in which the U.S. citizen is a bona fide resident. To date, no action has been taken to institute such a policy to alleviate the burden on overseas Americans as a result of FATCA. That is why I am proud to introduce the Overseas Americans Financial Access Act which would implement TAS's recommendation and exempt Americans from FATCA reporting if their accounts are held in the same country where they are a bona fide resident.

As Members of Congress, it is our duty to represent our constituents' best interests whether they live in the United States or overseas. I urge my colleagues to support this bill so that we may fulfill this duty and grant our overseas constituents the relief they need.

HONORING WILLIE WRIGHT, SR.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of Mr. Willie Wright, Sr.

Mr. Wright, Sr. was born to the union of George Moses Wright and Fannie Cowan Wright. This union was blessed with five beautiful children. All of his siblings preceded him in death years ago in New York and Alabama, but God saw fit to leave the baby, "Willie" in Rural Holmes County, Mississippi for eighty-two years.

As a child, Willie confessed Christ as his personal savior and united with the Popular

Springs C.M.E. Church. Later, he moved to the Lebanon Community and united with the Lebanon Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. A. Barron.

During the winter season, Mr. Wright, Sr. married Claudie Mae Ware on November 13, 1954. This union was blessed with six children. Willie wanted his children to leave no task incomplete and often uttered these words to his children: "Don't ever stop anything you start. If you don't plan to finish it, don't start it."

Mr. Wright, Sr. was married with a seventh grade education but went back to school in 1969 to complete his education at Saints Industry in the Migrant Farm/Manpower School under the direction of Dr. Arenia C. Mallory. Mr. Wright, Sr. put his six children through their college education.

In 1962, Mr. Wright went to work at the Charcoal Plant in Lexington, MS. In 1968, he began his employment with the Holmes County School Bus Garage as a Mechanic and continued his employment with the District until his retirement in 2008; an inspiring forty year career.

Mr. Wright made free standing metal toys as a hobby that gain bragging rights with all of his co-workers, family and all who saw them. He designed an Electric Chair at the Holmes County Bus Garage and enjoyed plugging it up for all of his friends. Willie and all of his brothers were Blues guitarist and included their dance moves for audiences to enjoy. Although his favorite musical instrument was the harmonica, he was a master of them all.

Mr. Willie Wright, Sr. will be truly missed and his legacy will continue in the heart of those he left behind: a devoted wife of sixty-two years, Claudie Mae; 6 children: Artha Earl, Robert Lee, Earline (James Zachary), Willie, Jr., Brinda and Charlie Edward; 11 Grandchildren: Sammie, Tonya (Jeremy), Stephanie (Jimmie), Robert, Jr., Alvia (Christopher), Aries, Robbie (Sha'marcus), Chauntrell, Jamie, Marcus and Charlie Martez; 7 Great-Grands, 1 sister-in-law, 6 brothers-in-law, numerous nieces, nephews and loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the legacy of Mr. Willie Wright, Sr. for his dedication to the community, friends and his family.

IN RECOGNITION OF LIEUTENANT
COMMANDER JOHN J. PARMA

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2017

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the service of Lieutenant Commander John J. Parma, who will retire from the United States Navy this month after 21 years of distinguished and faithful service to our nation.

Since graduating from class 214 of Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL training, LCDR Parma has participated in numerous combat missions around the world. His service has taken him from West Africa to Bosnia. Additionally, he has executed many combat special reconnaissance missions behind enemy lines in Afghanistan and sensitive site exploitations in Iraq, which have earned him numerous awards and accolades.