

Vietnam with veterans from both sides of the conflict to promote healing and peace.

I was blessed to have known Mr. Ramos, and to have worked with him in our community and during his visits to Washington to help Vietnam veterans get the recognition, respect and care that they deserve.

Mr. Ramos alleviated the suffering of his fellow soldiers wounded on the field of battle, he alleviated the suffering of his fellow Angelenos in the emergency rooms of Southern California, and he alleviated the suffering in the hearts and minds of veterans who bore invisible wounds from Vietnam and their return to the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Jose Ramos for his courage, character and commitment to supporting his fellow veterans. We extend our deepest sympathies to Mr. Ramos' family and friends for their loss. He was a model citizen and a hero for our community, our state and our nation.

HONORING MR. ROBERT FISHMAN

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2017

Ms. ESTY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert "Bob" Fishman for his decades of leadership at the Jewish Federation Association of Connecticut. Bob recently retired as the Executive Director of JFACT after 23 years with the organization, leaving a legacy of strong relationships between Connecticut's civic and faith leaders.

Bob has been a leading advocate for Connecticut's Jewish community. Through JFACT, he maintained close ties with the Jewish communities across Connecticut and ensured all their voices were represented in the organization's work. Those who have worked with Bob know him for his tireless dedication to strengthening our community.

As Executive Director, Bob worked closely with leaders in state government and our federal delegation on a number of issues critical to the Jewish community and Connecticut as a whole. He was instrumental in the creation of the annual Holocaust Remembrance Day at the State Capitol, which ensures that we remember the horror of hatred and genocide and that we educate future generations about its impact on our world. Through the 80s and 90s, Bob worked tirelessly to support the resettlement of refugees from the former Soviet Union and ensured they could begin their American Dream.

Mr. Speaker, Bob Fishman has been a dedicated civic and spiritual leader within our state, and it is therefore fitting and proper that we honor him here today. He serves as a role model for everyone in public service as someone who puts his faith into action to improve our state and our country. I am proud to call him a friend.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2017

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, due to cleanup and recovery from Hurricane Irma

which greatly impacted my district, I was unable to return to Washington D.C. for this vote on September 12.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 485.

HONORING LARRY POOLE, GILLSVILLE'S MAYOR

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2017

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my northeast Georgia neighbor, Mr. Larry Poole. For 24 years, he served as the Mayor of Gillsville, giving both his time and effort to the place that he calls home.

When Larry first became mayor, his mission was to use his role to amplify the voices in his community. Throughout his tenure, Mayor Poole was able to help his friends and neighbors and improve their community through servant leadership.

As Mayor of Gillsville, Larry exemplified such leadership each day, even on the day that he resigned. By choosing to fill a vacant seat on the city council, he put the needs of his community first, giving up his title in order to allow a new leader to add to the vision of Gillsville.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Larry for his dedication to northeast Georgia, and want to wish him the best as he assumes his new role on the city council. Northeast Georgia will always find a friend and leader in Larry Poole.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2017

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on September 12, 2017 I missed a series of Roll Call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on No. 485.

ACKNOWLEDGING RENIE PETERSON

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2017

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to express my gratitude to Renie Peterson, the Aurora City Councilwoman for Ward II, for her extraordinary work and dedication to the City of Aurora. Her leadership has contributed to many of Aurora's most successful programs and initiatives.

I first met Renie Peterson when we both attended high school almost 50 years ago. In 1969, the City of Aurora was not the incredibly diverse community it is today. Yet, years later as a City Council Member, Renie not only recognized how Aurora has changed since we were growing up here, she fully embraced the "new" Aurora and founded the City of Aurora Global Fest which celebrates the vast array of

different cultures and ethnicities that now make up our great city. Renie was awarded the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Chairman's Award for her commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion in our community. She has shown throughout her decade of dedicated service as a City of Aurora Council Member her enthusiasm and commitment to better our community.

In addition, as Councilwoman Peterson sought to advance this city to its greatest potential, she served the City of Aurora and Adams County for over twenty years as a Board Member for several intergovernmental groups such as, Adams County Economic Development, Urban Drainage and Flood Control, Sand Creek Regional Greenway, and is the founder of the Aurora Public Schools' Wish List Project.

Mr. Speaker, Councilwoman Renie Peterson has enhanced the quality of life for every resident in the City of Aurora. Her leadership helped make the City of Aurora the great place it is today. I believe that Renie Peterson is among the very best, and I am very grateful for her unyielding dedication to our community.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2018

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID N. CICILLINE

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3354) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2018, and for other purposes:

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of my amendment which supports expanding access to Naloxone for first responders.

Equipping police officers and EMTs with Naloxone means they can immediately save the life of a person who is overdosing.

Although drug overdose deaths rose by 33 percent in the past five years, states, like Rhode Island, Maryland and Pennsylvania, are experiencing severe shortages of Naloxone. The cost of Naloxone has skyrocketed—rising by thousands of dollars in some cases—and it only has a shelf life of 18 to 24 months.

States have had to find alternate sources of funding, including tapping into emergency funds and cutting state programs, just to keep Naloxone in stock.

Some communities have also had to make extremely tough choices, like rationing funds and deciding how many lives they will save.

We must make additional investments in Naloxone for our first responders in order to stem the rising tide of opioid deaths.

I urge my colleagues to support my amendment.