

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## DISASTER TAX RELIEF AND AIRPORT AND AIRWAY EXTENSION ACT OF 2017

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 27, 2017*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 3823, the Disaster Tax and Airport and Airway Extension Act of 2017.

Hurricane Harvey flooded the Houston region with 21 trillion gallons of water causing tragic and catastrophic results in my district.

Hurricane Harvey destroyed 185 thousand homes in the Houston region, displacing my constituents and harming their livelihoods.

Hurricane Harvey has created an incredible need for enhanced assistance in rebuilding efforts.

My principal focus is to do what is best for my constituents and that is why I support the underlying bill.

H.R. 3823 grants individuals and businesses in areas affected by hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria a tax relief in addition to extending the authorization for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) through March 31, 2018, without privatization of air-traffic control.

Although I support clean reauthorization of the FAA, which is long overdue as a result of the inability of those responsible to craft legislation that obtains bipartisan majority support, I do not support the attached partisan package of extraneous provisions added to the reauthorization.

I also do not support a reauthorization of the FAA that would privatize air-traffic control.

My Democratic colleagues had 21 tax relief provisions to add to the reauthorization.

H.R. 3823 only contains 7 of those provisions; however, they are very important hurricane relief provisions.

On health care, H.R. 3823 extends just three of the many programs set to expire at the end of the month, leaving out bipartisan priorities like CHIP and Community Health Centers extenders.

Additionally, the tax provisions concerning disaster victims were assembled without bipartisan input and leave out important items that were included for victims of prior disasters like Hurricane Katrina.

And finally, this bill blocks the path for any DREAMers legislation to be considered.

Going forward, I would like to see the items just mentioned to be added to the reauthorization bill.

H.R. 3823 would provide tax credits, deductions, and other relief to taxpayers in disaster areas affected by hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria.

Most measures would apply to taxpayers in parts of Florida, Puerto Rico, Texas, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, where the president declared a major disaster zone warranting federal assistance as of Sept. 21.

The budget effects of the tax provisions would be considered emergency spending for budgetary purposes and not count against the spending caps.

The provisions are similar to relief provided after hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma.

The measure specifically helps hurricane victims keep more of their paycheck, deduct more of the cost of their expensive property damage, and have more affordable and immediate access to money they have saved for their retirement.

The legislation will also encourage even more Americans to donate generously to help those in need.

The bill would waive the 10 percent penalty on early distributions from retirement accounts for taxpayers in affected areas.

Individuals would be eligible to make the withdrawal if their primary residence was in one of the disaster areas as of the date of the storm and they sustained an economic loss.

The withdrawn amount would be included in the taxpayer's gross income, and would be spread over three years unless the taxpayer opted to claim it in a single year.

If the taxpayer repaid the distribution within three years, it would be considered a rollover for tax purposes and they could claim a refund for their previous income tax payments.

The withdrawal would have to occur by Jan. 1, 2019, and wouldn't be subject to withholding.

An individual could withdraw as much as \$100,000 as hurricane distributions over their lifetime.

Plan sponsors would not be in violation of the Internal Revenue Service's retirement plan rules unless they distributed more than \$100,000 to an individual.

Individuals could return withdrawals they had made for a home purchase in a disaster area between Feb. 28 and Sept. 21 if the home wasn't purchased or constructed because of the hurricanes.

The bill would increase the size of a loan an individual can take from their employer retirement fund. Loans could be for as much as \$100,000—less other outstanding loans—or half the present value of the vested balance of the plan.

The bill would delay repayment deadlines for individuals with outstanding loans as of the date of the disaster.

The repayment date for loans due on or before Dec. 31, 2018, would be delayed for one year.

Individuals who took out loans after the hurricanes would not receive the extension.

The bill would create a credit for businesses that were rendered inoperable by the hurricanes but that retained their employees.

Employers could receive a credit for 40 percent of each employee's wages.

The credit amount couldn't exceed \$6,000 per employee.

The employee's principal place of employment would have to be in one of the disaster zones.

Businesses would receive credits for wages on each day they were inoperable after the date of the hurricane and before Jan. 1, 2018.

The credit would be for wages paid each day until significant operations resumed, even if the employee returned to work or worked at a different location.

The limit on the deduction for contributions to charitable organizations would be suspended for donations made between Aug. 23 and Dec. 31 to relief efforts in the hurricane disaster areas.

Taxpayers wouldn't have to itemize their tax return to claim the deduction.

The deduction is normally limited to 50 percent of adjusted gross income (AGI) for individuals and 10 percent of taxable income for corporations.

The bill would allow individuals to contribute as much as their AGI, less any other charitable contributions.

Amounts greater than AGI could be carried over to other tax years.

I would allow corporations to contribute as much as their taxable income, less any other charitable contributions.

Donations in excess of taxable income could be carried over.

The charitable organization would have to provide written confirmation that the funds would be used for relief efforts.

Partnerships and S corporations would each have to elect the deduction.

The bill would allow taxpayers to deduct uncompensated casualty losses related to the hurricane even if their losses didn't meet the minimum threshold for the deduction, currently 10 percent of AGI. The deduction would be net of any personal casualty gains.

Taxpayers wouldn't have to itemize their return to claim the deduction.

The taxpayer's standard deduction would be increased by the net disaster loss, including for purposes of calculating whether they are liable for the alternative minimum tax.

The bill would establish a special rule for determination of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Tax Credit.

If a taxpayer had received one or both of the credits in the previous tax year but their earned income was too high to qualify in 2017, they could substitute their 2016 income to claim them.

Individuals would qualify if their principal residence was in the hurricane disaster zone, or in the surrounding disaster area and they had been displaced by the hurricane.

Puerto Rican taxpayers' eligibility for the child tax credit would be based on their Social Security earnings.

The child tax credit is only available to Puerto Rican families with three or more children.

The EITC is not typically available to residents of Puerto Rico, according to a report from the Congressional Research Service (CRS).

The bill would direct the Treasury Department to provide funding to the government of Puerto Rico for the estimated amount of tax relief for residents who would be eligible under the bill.

The Puerto Rican government would have to promptly distribute the funds.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Puerto Rico would have to have a plan for disbursing the funds approved by the Treasury before the money would be provided.

The Treasury Department would reimburse the U.S. Virgin Islands, which has a "mirror" tax system, for any reduction in tax revenue caused by the bill.

Residents of the U.S. Virgin Islands are also generally ineligible for the EITC but can claim the child tax credit, according to CRS.

For the reasons mentioned above I support H.R. 3823.

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COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF  
JEFFREY H. BROTMAN

**HON. SUZAN K. DELBENE**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2017*

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of my friend and constituent, Mr. Jeffrey H. Brotman, who recently passed away at the age of 74.

Jeff was a Washington state native well known for his business accomplishments. From growing up working in his father's stores to opening Bottoms and eventually as a founder of Costco, Jeff's work made a significant impact around the world.

But he wasn't just a business leader. Jeff's generosity and tireless dedication to bettering our community will have a lasting impact on the Puget Sound region.

Jeff was a dedicated Husky and served as a University of Washington trustee. He also chaired the Million Dollar Round Table, working to bring people together to help others today and long into the future. In recognition of his work, he received the 2014 United Way Beacon Award for Visionary Philanthropy.

I would like to commemorate Jeff's lifetime of achievements. He will be remembered by his uplifting demeanor and abiding optimism, and as a committed community servant whose important work will continue to echo in years to come. My thoughts are with his wife, Susan, his children Justin and Amanda, and all of his family and friends.

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RWANDA: DEMOCRACY THWARTED

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2017*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I held a hearing on democratic governance in Rwanda. Rwanda is an important African ally. This East African nation has been a valuable contributor to peacekeeping in Africa and is the sixth largest troop and police contributor to United Nations missions. However, reports have increased about the status of human rights and rule of law inside Rwanda and its efforts to silence critics living abroad. This hearing will examine the future of democracy and rule of law in Rwanda in light of persistent criticism of its government's behavior at home and on the international stage.

Rwanda is a constitutional republic dominated by a strong presidency. In 2015, the country held a constitutional referendum in which an estimated 98 percent of registered

voters participated. Approximately 98 percent of those who voted endorsed a set of amendments that included provisions that would allow the president to run for up to three additional terms in office, meaning Paul Kagame could be President for more than 20 more years. His election to a third term in August 2017 was achieved with 99 percent of the vote.

A popular politician in the United States or most other countries would be unlikely in most circumstances to win nearly 100 percent of the vote in a free, fair and competitive election. Consequently, it is difficult to believe that even someone as widely admired as President Kagame has been could be that popular. Such suspicion is stoked by reports of vote irregularities and actions by the Rwandan government to restrain opposition activism and enact stringent controls on opposition activism, including legal restrictions on civil liberties and stringent controls on the free flow of information.

An example of why there is skepticism about the nature of free elections in Rwanda is the case of businesswoman Diane Rwigara, who ran as a critic of Kagame. Days after she launched her campaign, nude photos allegedly of her were leaked onto the Internet in an attempt to discredit her. She said she would not be intimidated and continued her campaign. On July 7th, the National Electoral Commission disqualified her and two other candidates on technical grounds, alleging that they had not collected enough valid signatures. Amnesty International said that the election would be held in a "climate of fear and repression" and the commission's decision was criticized by the U.S. State Department and the European Union.

Following the election, Rwigara launched an activist group called the People Salvation Movement to challenge the regime on its human rights record, saying that the country's parliament is little more than a rubber-stamp. Within days, her home was raided, and she was arrested for forgery and tax evasion. Although she was released, Rwigara, was re-arrested for forgery and offences against state security; her mother and her sister also were subsequently arrested for tax evasion.

This is not the only case of harsh punishment of those who criticize the Kagame government. David Himbara, one of our witnesses today, was a close adviser to President Kagame and has an inside view of how this government deals with those seen as failing the government or those who disagree. He testified on the inner workings of the Kagame government at our May 20, 2015, hearing on Rwanda. Another witness at that May 2015 hearing was Robert Higiroti, who told a chilling account of being solicited to commit the murders of two formerly high-ranking military and security officials. That account was backed by authenticated recordings of Rwanda's security chief offering large sums of money for the murders. In fact, after Higiroti testified about this offer, he had to move from Belgium to the United States because his life was in danger. Both of our Rwandan witnesses have new information that will be important for our government's policy toward Rwanda.

During a staff delegation to South Africa last year, two of my staff spoke with officials in the Government of South Africa, which was highly offended that the Rwandan government would be involved in the murder of a dissident on

New Year's Eve 2013. My staff also spoke with Rwandan refugees in South Africa who reported being afraid of officials at the Rwandan embassy in South Africa, who they said had threatened them for seeking asylum.

Again, Rwanda is not your typical dictatorship in which all people suffer under an unpopular leader who does not provide for social services or security. Many Rwandans apparently genuinely feel the government is acting in their interest, especially in providing for inter-ethnic harmony. It is this anomaly we seek to better understand through today's hearing.

My office has compiled a report on our government's human rights issues with Rwanda, and we are due to discuss these matters with them further. We would be a poor ally if we did not caution the Rwandan government about human rights abuses the international community cites, including governments in Africa. We hope these abuses can be stopped, but until such time as they are, we cannot ignore them and must bring them up in our interactions with the Government of Rwanda whether or not they readily accept the view others have of their behavior. It is in their interest and ours that we do so.

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REMEMBERING AND HONORING  
JEROME MILEUR

**HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2017*

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker, today I remember and honor the life of Jerome Mileur who passed away on September 5 this year.

Jerry was born in Murphysboro, Illinois in 1934 where he honed a love of government, politics, baseball and corny humor punctuated with comedic puns. A loyal son of Illinois, Jerry earned undergraduate and graduate degrees from his beloved Southern Illinois University where he served for many years on the board of directors of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute.

An accomplished author and editor, Jerry joined the Political Science faculty of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst in 1967 where his teaching and research focused on U.S. political parties and elections for nearly four decades. He served as chair of the Department of Political Science, received the UMass Amherst Chancellor's Medal, founded the Jackie Robinson Initiative which marked the 50th anniversary of baseball's integration and advised a cadre of doctoral students.

So many people knew Jerry's passion for baseball. He could be seen wearing a baseball cap with a pencil in hand to keep score at nearly every game he attended in person, and he was the longtime owner of the Harrisburg Senators minor league baseball franchise. As a diehard Cubs fan myself, Mr. Speaker, I must say Jerry's one irredeemable feature was his passionate devotion to the St. Louis Cardinals. In all seriousness, though, Jerry's historical study of the St. Louis Cardinals led to the publishing of two books about the Cardinals, and he finished the manuscript for a third book just days before his death.

Jerry's commitment to his communities, both in Illinois and in Massachusetts, could be evidenced by his governmental and political activity, his substantial support for the arts, and

his longstanding weekly meals and happy hours with friends of all ages.

On behalf of all of Jerry's countless friends and associates, I just want to thank him for all he has done for the people of Illinois and our country.

Mr. Speaker, I hope we might all keep in our thoughts and prayers the Mileur family and friends as they mourn their loss. In that spirit, I celebrate Jerry's life and think about what an impact that life made on so many people.

DLA & COMPANY

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud DLA & Company for receiving the City of Wheat Ridge's Chamber Business of the Year Award. This award recognizes businesses or individuals for their contribution to the community, and are a positive reflection of the City of Wheat Ridge's values.

DLA & Company was founded by Dale Anderson in 1985 as an independent full-service financial planning firm committed to helping individuals and business owners pursue their financial goals. DLA & Company was one of the founding businesses of the Wheat Ridge Chamber of Commerce. Dale chaired the Leads Group, and is a member of the Wheat Ridge Business Association, the West Chamber of Commerce and the High Plains Drifters Charter Club of the International Federation of Fly Fishers.

I applaud Dale Anderson for being the recipient of this well-deserved honor by the City of Wheat Ridge, and I congratulate him on his success.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BOLIVAR  
HIGH SCHOOL FISHING TEAM

### HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Bolivar High School Fishing Team and their recent victory in the National Youth Fishing Association (NYFA) South Division Championship.

Bolivar High School anglers, Andrew Johnson and John Hubbert, emerged as champions of the high school division on Sunday, July 16, 2017.

Taking place at the Pomme de Terre Lake, the NYFA South Division event brought 290 high school and middle school teams to southern Missouri where the anglers from Bolivar took first place. John and Andrew not only brought home a trophy but \$2,000 worth of scholarship money as well.

I am honored to both recognize and congratulate Andrew and John, along with the Bolivar High School Fishing Team, on this terrific achievement. On behalf of Missouri's 7th Congressional District, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating this team and these two individuals on their outstanding achievements.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR LUKE  
KENLEY FOR HIS SERVICE TO  
INDIANA

### HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the retirement of Senator Luke Kenley from the Indiana State Senate after 25 years. For decades Senator Kenley has served not only his constituents in Indiana's 20th Senate district, but has served our state and our nation. The people of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District are forever grateful for Senator Kenley's commitment to making our Hoosier home and our country a better, safer, place to live.

The oldest of eight children, Howard "Luke" Kenley is a life-long Hoosier and was raised in Hamilton County. He and his siblings split time between Noblesville during the school year and working summers at his grandparents' west Texas cattle ranch in Ft. Stockton. Senator Kenley graduated from Noblesville High School as their senior class president in 1963, where he met his high school sweetheart and future wife, Sally. Senator Kenley then attended Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, my alma mater. He graduated in the class of 1967 earning his bachelor's degree in economics. Following graduation from Miami, he went on to Harvard to pursue his law degree. Senator Kenley left law school in 1969 during the fourth year of the Vietnam war to enroll in officer candidate school (OCS) where he graduated first in his class with the rank of Lieutenant. After completing OCS, Senator Kenley returned to Harvard to finish his law degree in 1972. Senator Kenley then returned to Noblesville to start his career and begin a family with his wife, Sally.

Senator Kenley practiced business law in Indianapolis for two years, after which he left to run the family business, founded in 1940 by his grandfather R.A. Kenley. Under his leadership Kenley Supermarkets, in Noblesville, grew tremendously from 20 employees and \$2 million in yearly sales to two stores and 175 employees with \$16 million in yearly sales. Senator Kenley managed operations from 1974 to 1998, at which time Marsh Supermarkets purchased the business. In addition to his time at the helm of Kenley Supermarkets, Senator Kenley served as the Noblesville City Court judge at the urging of Hamilton County Republican leaders. In 1990, after 15 years and 40,000 cases, Senator Kenley retired from the bench. It was not long before he was again asked to serve. In 1992, Senator Kenley was tapped to fill the vacancy in state Senate campaign in his home district. Senator Kenley won the seat and has served with distinction ever since his first term.

He earned respect from his peers during his very first term and he was awarded "Freshman Legislator of the Year". During his career in the Senate, Senator Kenley worked tirelessly on the Tax and Fiscal Policy committee to make Indiana a fiscally responsible and affordable state. He is responsible for pushing through the largest tax cut in Indiana's history, while simultaneously leading the charge on welfare reform. His budgetary talents led him to the chairmanship of the Senate Appropriations Committee, and in turn led him to be-

come one of the key architects of the Indiana state budget. This year Indiana will once again have a balanced budget, including provisions for a long term road maintenance plan and no tax increases. During his eight-year tenure as chairman, Indiana has seen its reserves grow to two billion dollars, while also eliminating excess taxes. Senator Kenley, in addition to his work on the budget, sat on the Education and Career Development Committee. He consistently pushed for continued K-12 funding as well as school choice. During his tenure, Senator Kenley helped to craft the Community Transition Program, which seeks to create a better transition back to society for offenders following their release from prison. Continuing with his care for all life, Senator Kenley's determination in protecting the unborn has led Indiana to be one of the most pro-life states in the nation. Senator Kenley was recognized for his numerous contributions in both 2013 with a Sagamore of the Wabash as well as in 2014 through the Distinguished Public Official Award from Ivy Tech Community College, well-deserved recognitions indeed.

During his vibrant career, Luke also served as the Board President for the Noblesville Boys and Girls Club while also maintaining active memberships in the Noblesville Chamber of Commerce, the United Way of Central Indiana, Elks Lodge No. 576, the American Legion, the Hamilton County 50 club, and the First United Methodist Church of Noblesville. In 2004, he acted as the coordinator for Hamilton County Veteran's Organization Vietnam Wall Recreation Activities. Senator Kenley and his wife Sally's crowning achievement have been helping establish the Noblesville Education Foundation, which provides access to financial and material resources for Noblesville teachers. In addition to the Foundation, they created the "Strings" music program for Noblesville schools. He also holds annual leadership conferences at the State House for high school senior class presidents from his district about the importance of public service. Senator Kenley says "It's important for our young people to think about public service as part of what they're going to contribute . . . It's part of the commitment to the success of our society." He says for democracy to work, "Everybody's got to pitch in".

Senator Kenley's lifetime of service to his community, through his military service, as Noblesville City Court judge, as state Senator, and as the architect of our state budget and our state's fiscal stability, he has been invaluable not only to his district but to our whole state and nation. Thanks to his dedication to fiscal responsibility, to K-12 education, and numerous other projects throughout his career, Indiana is a great place to live and do business. On behalf of all Hoosiers, I wish to extend a heartfelt thank you to Senator Kenley for his lifetime of service. I wish the very best to Senator Kenley, his wife Sally, their three children John, Bill, and Etsy as well as the rest of the Kenley family in his well-deserved retirement at home and on the ranch.

HONORING ANDREW “ANDY”  
RIENDEAU GOODWIN

**HON. C. A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER**  
OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2017*

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to honor the life and legacy of Andrew “Andy” Riendeau Goodwin, a Maryland National Guardsman and member of the Abingdon Fire Company.

A native of Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri, and a resident of Abingdon, Maryland, he was the son of Timothy Riendeau and Elizabeth Goodwin.

Andy attended Harford Community College where he earned an Associate of Arts Degree after graduating from Aberdeen High School as the Captain of his soccer, lacrosse and wrestling teams.

Andy was a member and Sergeant of the Abingdon Fire Company of Abingdon, Maryland.

A proud member of a military family, on October 2, 2015, Andy enlisted in the Maryland Army National Guard and was assigned to A Company, 1st Battalion, 224th Aviation Regiment as a 15F, Aircraft Electrician, where he developed a passion for the helicopter unit and earned numerous commendations, including the National Defense Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Army Achievement Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Basic Aviation Badge.

Andy had a passion for the outdoors and enjoyed hiking, camping, fishing, and clay shooting. He was not only a cherished uncle, but a role model to his niece and nephews. He is survived by his brother, sister, nephews, niece, and grandparents.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to acknowledge the service and sacrifice of Andy Riendeau Goodwin and that of his family. It is with great sadness that I mourn his loss and commemorate Suicide Awareness Month. Today I humbly express my condolences to his family and wish them peace and comfort in the days ahead.

H.R. 3354, STATE ASSESSMENT  
GRANTS AMENDMENT

**HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2017*

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my bipartisan amendment to H.R. 3354 to increase funding for State Assessment Grants.

I want to thank my colleague and friend, Representative COSTELLO for his continued leadership on this issue, and for his commitment to a successful implementation of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

In the last Congress, we passed the Every Student Succeeds Act, a bipartisan bill, to leave behind No Child Left Behind. After 14 years, Democrats and Republicans in both Chambers came together on a compromise legislation to update federal K–12 education policy and reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

ESSA ensures equity protections for America's students. It supports our most vulnerable

and underserved students and works to close the achievement gap. ESSA gives states and school districts flexibility to develop their own plans for holding schools accountable, measuring student success, and encouraging improvements. It also recognizes the important role of assessments in education. Assessments serve as a tool to monitor student progress and gauge how students are performing across each state. Assessments also inform teacher instruction by providing valuable information to support student learning. ESSA includes provisions from the SMART Act, a bipartisan bill I authored with Representative COSTELLO to help make assessments more effective.

Our amendment would provide full funding for ESSA's State Assessment Grants. State Assessment Grants provide critical resources to help states and school districts build high-quality assessment systems that support teachers and students. By fully funding State Assessment Grants, states and school districts can audit their assessment systems and reduce excessive, repetitive testing. This funding can also help states—like my home state of Oregon—develop new assessments to strengthen student learning. Oregon is preparing to pilot a K–3 formative assessment to improve student outcomes.

The good work being done in Oregon is an example of what is possible if states have the resources and flexibility they need to focus on student success. I thank my colleague Representative COSTELLO for his partnership, and I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

IN CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL  
BAKERY DAY

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2017*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on September 28, to celebrate the first ever National Bakery Day and to honor our independent bakeries.

Local and family-owned bakeries put bread on our tables and a touch of sweetness in our lives, all while reflecting the uniqueness of our neighborhoods. They're small businesses that invest in Main Street and provide good jobs and give back to our communities in many ways.

Grandma's Bakery, in White Bear Lake, Minnesota and others like it around the country succeed along with their communities. Located in historic downtown White Bear Lake, Grandma's owners John and Deb Lupo employ 100 hundred staffers making delicious breads, delectable pastries and other goodies. By investing in the bakery and the community, John and Deb have grown Grandma's Bakery into a beloved institution and a destination in White Bear Lake.

All across Saint Paul and the East Metropolitan area, independent bakeries are part of the lifeblood of their neighborhoods—like Dorothy Ann Bakery in Woodbury, the excellent Saint Paul bakeries A Piece of Cake, Wuollet's, PJ Murphy, Trung Nam, Morelos, Mojo Monkey Donuts, Pancho Villa, and so many others. Bakeries are special places that deliver wholesome goodness and a place for neighbors to gather.

National Bakery Day is a way to celebrate not only the important role that bakeries play in our lives, but also the creativity and talent required of bakers to make the tasty baked goods that are so hard for us to turn down. Bakeries help us preserve and enjoy the individual character of the community and the traditions passed down from generation to generation.

Bakeries are with us not only during meals, but also during important and joyous moments in our lives such as weddings, birthdays and graduations. In recognition of National Bakery Day, I thank independent, local bakers around the country for the important place that they hold in our communities.

DOWN RIVER EQUIPMENT

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2017*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Down River Equipment for receiving the City of Wheat Ridge's Special Recognition Award—A “Colorado Company to Watch” Award. The Special Recognition Award recognizes businesses or individuals showing strong community ties and a positive reflection of the City of Wheat Ridge's values.

Down River Equipment was named a Colorado Company to Watch by the Colorado Office on Economic Development and Trade as a “second stage” company for their performance in the marketplace, innovative products, unique processes and philanthropic actions. “Second stage” companies are those who have moved past the startup stage and into a period of growth. Down River Equipment has been manufacturing and supplying river equipment in Colorado since 1985. The company is owned by boaters and employs an experienced team to assist with all the customer's river needs. The company specializes in the custom fabrication, distribution and retail of equipment of all types of river adventures.

I applaud Down River Equipment for being the recipient of this well-deserved honor by the City of Wheat Ridge, and I congratulate them on their success.

HONORING MARY KELLEY

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2017*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Mary Kelley of the District of Columbia on her retirement on September 29, 2017, after more than 34 years of service to the U.S. House of Representatives.

During Mary Kelley's tenure, she has worked for both the Office of the Clerk and the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). She is retiring as the Resource Manager for the Office of Acquisitions Management within the CAO.

Mary Kelley began her career in December 1983 as a Clerk Typist for the Office of the Clerk. During her time with the Clerk, she

worked for various offices, including Office Equipment Services and Office Systems Management. She also held various positions within these offices, including Equipment Accounts Clerk, Senior Accounts Payable Specialist and Manager.

In 1995, Mary Kelley began working for the CAO. She has worked for various offices within CAO, including House Support Services, the Office Supply and Gift Shop and Acquisitions Management. As the Resource Manager for the Office of Acquisitions Management, she was responsible for the development, analysis and execution of personnel and operational budgets and oversight of payment process activities, among other assigned duties. She planned and provided assistance to the management team in preparation of the annual budget.

Upon her retirement, Mary Kelley plans to do more traveling. In addition, she hopes to become a volunteer with the Washington Nationals, her favorite baseball team. I am pleased and proud that Mary Kelley is a D.C. resident.

Therefore, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Mary Kelley for her many years of dedicated service and outstanding contributions to the U.S. House of Representatives. We wish her many wonderful years in fulfilling her retirement dreams.

#### HONORING RETIRED ARMY LIEUTENANT COLONEL HAROLD T. RIGGINS, III

#### HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, today we honor retired Army Lieutenant Colonel Harold T. Riggins, III, decorated combat soldier, community trailblazer, and passionate advocate for veterans transitioning from military to civilian life.

During 27 years of active military duty—first as an enlisted Sergeant, then as an officer—LTC (R) Riggins deployed with the 101st Airborne Division for two tours in Iraq, earning distinction as a proven combat leader. For his outstanding service, he was awarded the Legion of Merit, two Bronze Stars, coveted Ranger Tab, and multiple medals and badges.

While working post-retirement as program director for the Soldier for Life-Transition Assistance Program (SFL-TAP), he personally walked 38,000 Fort Campbell soldiers, hand-in-hand, through one of the toughest processes they experience at the end of their careers. Working with multiple city, county and state governments, and thousands of companies in a one-stop facility, he delivered a “smooth takeoff” for each of the 400 soldiers transitioning monthly from the Army, helping them successfully move into the National Guard and Reserves, higher education, civilian or self-employment worldwide, while learning to plan financially and utilize federal and state benefits. His servant attitude, superior management, and infinite compassion make him an inspirational model for military personnel nearing end of service.

Leadership is not as it appears, but as it performs. We now celebrate LTC (R) Riggins, who for seven dynamic years ensured the 1

percent of Americans who sacrificed to serve our nation thrive in the communities they love.

#### HONORING MAYSVILLE'S 50TH AUTUMN LEAF FESTIVAL

#### HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the city of Maysville as its residents prepare for their 50th Autumn Leaf Festival.

Each year, this event brings friendly faces together to celebrate the dawn of a new season. Friends and neighbors participate in games, savor Autumn-themed treats, and cheer as they watch a parade pass through their community's streets.

The people of Maysville invest their time and energy in this festival because, for them, this celebration is a way to serve their neighbors and put a smile on their faces.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot imagine northeast Georgia without the city of Maysville, whose people help make our region the welcoming place that we know and love.

This fall, the leaves will take on new colors and the air will become cooler, but the people of Maysville will remain unchanged—their warmth and compassion renewed with every season, as we see through their 50th Autumn Leaf Festival.

#### JOSEPH F. CHEFF

#### HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Joseph Cheff, who has celebrated his retirement from Passaic County Education Associations this past Friday.

Expressing how much Mr. Cheff meant to Passaic County is a delightful task. As a fellow official in the education system, as an admirer, and as a Patersonian, it gives me great pleasure to add my personal appreciation and commendation.

Mr. Cheff served in the school district at the peak of his memorable career. In 1982, he was a mathematics instructor for the Paterson Public School borough. Joseph Cheff's mission statement was to prepare each student for success in the collegiate institution of their choice and in their careers. His role in education and leadership leaves a positive mark on New Jersey's youth.

Throughout the course of his life he has been involved in numerous organizations such as Paterson Education Association, where he resides as delegate assemblyman. One of his most prominent affiliations was as president of The Passaic County Education Association, where he believed that every student should have an extraordinary educational experience.

As president of Passaic County Education Association, his mission was to extend an opportunity for representation of various education groups to confer about problems affecting public education in Passaic County. Ultimately his desire was to facilitate the dissemin-

ation of information from national, state, county, and local educational associations.

Joseph Cheff continued to strive for the efforts of the teacher's union rights, tenure reform, and teacher evaluations on NJSBA (New Jersey School Boards Association). The services provided by the NJSBA allowed teachers and members of the New Jersey schools to carry out their daily responsibilities, tackle difficult situations, and realize the rewards of successful boardsmanship. By standing up for teacher's rights, Cheff knew that teachers with a less strenuous work life would not only become more relaxed in their workplace, but also outperform expectations and truly interact with their students, so as to contribute to the reformation of a poorly established educational program, and create informative methods of educating students for their futures.

It is an honor to commemorate the outstanding career of Mr. Joseph Cheff. Your hard work and tireless advocacy for both students and teachers, has impacted the community of Passaic for years to come. You are a wonderful person with a caring heart and your work will live on.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing and commemorating over 30 years of the contributions and services you have contributed to the residents of Passaic County from Mr. Joseph Cheff.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues in extending our gratitude towards a humanitarian who has planted the seed for aspiring students. Let us celebrate over 30 years of his dedicated service to not only the Paterson Public School System, but also for his tireless, hard work and amicable efforts as President of the Passaic County Education Association, Mr. Joseph Cheff.

#### FOUR SEASONS FARMERS AND ARTISANS MARKET

#### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Four Seasons Farmers and Artisans Market for receiving the City of Wheat Ridge's Cultural Commission Award for 2017. The Cultural Commission Award recognizes businesses or organizations that actively contribute to the enrichment of the culture of the City of Wheat Ridge.

This award recognizes the business that has made an impact by encouraging culture and arts, promoting awareness of the city's cultural activities, diversity and heritage and supports opportunities in art education for all ages incorporating art into the architecture and design of their building.

I applaud the Four Seasons Farmers Market of Wheat Ridge for being the recipient of this well-deserved honor by the City of Wheat Ridge, and I congratulate them on their success.

HONORING MR. DON STRAIT

**HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2017*

Ms. ESTY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Don Strait, a champion for Connecticut's environment, who recently retired after 25 years as the President of Connecticut Fund for the Environment. As President, Don has played a crucial role in numerous achievements in environmental protection and conservation in our state, and his work will benefit generations to come.

Since 1992, Don has been Executive Director and President of Connecticut Fund for the Environment, which later merged with Save the Sound. His tireless work in our state with local, state, and federal leaders has led to substantial victories for protection and conservation of our air, land, and water. The organization helped protect thousands of acres of land in western Connecticut vital to recreation and wildlife, and has ensured enactment of landmark climate policies, clean car laws, and environmental regulations vital for our public health.

Don facilitated the organization's merger with Save the Sound in 2004 and brought his track record of success to the group's expanded focus on both Connecticut's and the Long Island Sound's environmental quality. Connecticut Fund for the Environment/Save the Sound has been instrumental in reforming sewage management around the Sound, water quality monitoring, and the successful fight against the planned Broadwater gas plant.

What's more, Don has generously shared his time and expertise to support the crucial work of other leading groups in our state. He cofounded the Connecticut League of Conservation Voters to mobilize environmentally conscious citizens and has served on boards of Restore America's Estuaries and the State Environmental Leadership Program.

Mr. Speaker, Don Strait has been a dedicated and visionary leader for Connecticut. Present and future generations in our state owe him a great deal for protecting our world, and I am lucky to call him a friend. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

RECOGNIZING MR. ROBERT NEWLEN

**HON. MAC THORNBERRY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2017*

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize and thank Mr. Robert Newlen, Deputy Librarian of Congress, for more than 40 years of dedicated service to the Library of Congress. Prior to his current position, Mr. Newlen served in a wide variety of leadership roles within the Congressional Research Service and the Law Library, as well as Chief of Staff.

Throughout his distinguished career, Mr. Newlen received various awards and recognitions. I know, however, what he has valued the most is the opportunity to serve and to

promote the value of knowledge with Members of Congress, staff, and countless others.

The Library of Congress is a great gift to this country and to all who benefit from this treasury of learning. Robert has devoted his career to building up this institution in every way possible. And, at a time when truth sometimes seems elusive, he and his colleagues strive to make accurate information the foundation of what we do.

Mr. Newlen will leave this week to pursue other opportunities, but I have no doubt that his spirit of service will go with him. On behalf of all of us who have benefitted directly or indirectly from his work, I offer my sincere gratitude.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF AVENUES

**HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2017*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Avenues' 65th anniversary, which will be celebrated on September 28, 2017. For over six decades, Avenues has served disabled Pennsylvanians throughout Schuylkill, Carbon, Northumberland, Lebanon and Luzerne Counties.

Avenues was originally founded as United Cerebral Palsy of Schuylkill County in 1952 by a group of sixty parents whose children had special needs. The group's prime focus was addressing the lack of local medical care and educational services for their children. On September 12, 1952, the founders filed an application for a charter to become a member of United Cerebral Palsy. The organization was incorporated in November that year as United Cerebral Palsy of Schuylkill County.

Today, Avenues is responsible for planning, promoting and assisting the establishment, maintenance and operation of training centers or clinics for the education, social and physical betterment of those with Cerebral Palsy and similar disorders. Its aid has supported a wide array of research in the prevention and treatment of developmental disabilities and handicaps. It sponsors various educational campaigns for the general public to raise awareness about the requirements of and problems facing special-needs clinics. Avenues is a great wealth of information to its clients and their parents, families and friends.

It is an honor to recognize Avenues as it celebrates its 65th anniversary. I am grateful for the assistance it provides to people across its service area which includes Counties in my congressional district. May its staff and volunteers be able to continue their work helping Pennsylvanians with disabilities for many, many years to come.

CONGRATULATIONS TO KRYSTAL CAYLOR

**HON. BILLY LONG**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2017*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Krystal Caylor on her 2017 gold medal in the 200-yard individual medley race.

Competing in the Missouri State High School State Activities Association swimming championships, Ms. Caylor proudly represented the 7th district's Kickapoo High School located in Springfield, Missouri. Ms. Caylor went on to take the gold and win the 200-yard individual medley with a time of 2:03.48.

Ms. Caylor has now finished her Kickapoo swimming career and intends to continue her swimming career at the collegiate level at the University of Indianapolis.

I am honored to recognize Ms. Caylor for her outstanding achievement and wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors. On behalf of Missouri's 7th Congressional District, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ms. Caylor on her outstanding performance.

EMILY GREEN

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2017*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Emily Green for receiving the City of Wheat Ridge's Rising Star Award. This award recognizes businesses or individuals improving the organization and the community, and are a positive reflection of the City of Wheat Ridge's values.

The Rising Star Award is given each year to a member who has made a difference in the Wheat Ridge Business Association. Emily made a difference immediately upon her entrance to the Association. She joined various committees, volunteered, became a board member and subsequently became a board officer. Emily schedules and plans the monthly "Biz Mix" networking event; finding a location, obtaining food and drink sponsors and advertising the events. Emily also owns a local business, Cibo Meals. This meal-delivery service brings fresh, creative, and environmentally-responsible vegetarian meals around Northwest Denver using reusable Mason jars.

I applaud Emily Green for being the recipient of this well-deserved honor by the City of Wheat Ridge, and I congratulate her on her success.

H.R. 3354, TITLE VIII NURSING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AMENDMENT

**HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2017*

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my amendment to highlight the importance of each of the individual Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs, including Advanced Education Nursing; Nursing Workforce Diversity; Nurse Education, Practice, and Retention; and the Nurse Faculty Loan Program. Title VIII programs are a critical lifeline for America's nursing workforce and the patients they serve.

Demand for healthcare services provided by nurses continues to grow, so we should be expanding not cutting programs that maintain a

highly-educated nursing workforce. Just last year, Title VIII supported more than 61,000 students in almost every state.

Additionally, Title VIII programs create a culturally diverse workforce to make sure that our increasingly diverse patient population is cared for by culturally aware providers. Title VIII programs also prepare nurses to serve the most vulnerable communities and regions, such as rural areas that are in desperate need of providers.

I was disappointed to see that this bill condensed funding for the Title VIII programs into a single-line item. Each of the programs is designed to target specific needs within the nursing workforce and patient population, and that is why it's imperative that we preserve funding for each individual program.

I will continue to advocate for Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development and hope my colleagues will join me in supporting continued funding for the individual programs.

#### TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY

#### HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remind my colleagues that October 10th is Taiwan's National Day—also known as Double Ten Day. As this day approaches, I would like to congratulate President Tsai Ing-wen and the people of Taiwan, both on this occasion and on building one of the world's great democracies.

Over the past 30 years, Taiwan has come to embody the same principles we hold dear: constitutional government, democracy, and free enterprise. With its successful, sixth-direct presidential election last year, Taiwan continues to serve as a proud example of democratic success in the Asia-Pacific region. But rather than focusing solely within its own borders, Taiwan has been able to use its immense capabilities to become a leader both in the export of culture humanitarian work, and technical expertise the world over.

Given Taiwan's vibrant democracy, I urge my colleagues and the House as a body to advocate for Taiwan's return to both the World Health Assembly and the International Civil Aviation Organization, as well as its meaningful participation in other international organizations where it cannot be a member. Arguments against Taiwan's inclusion in these bodies belie the immense benefit that Taiwan can provide; Taiwan's omission is a detriment to both to the mission of these organizations and the wider world.

The bond between the United States and Taiwan, cemented by the Taiwan Relations Act and the Six Assurances, remains strong. I reaffirm it today, and again congratulate the people of Taiwan on this important occasion.

#### THE SISTERS OF CHARITY OF ST. ELIZABETH

#### HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the extraordinary efforts

and dedication of the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth, who were honored on Saturday, September 23, 2017 during St. Joseph's Healthcare System's Charity Ball on Ellis Island, where they celebrated 150 years of service to the community.

The Sisters of Charity in the United States were founded by Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, in the spirit of Saint Vincent de Paul and Saint Louise de Louise de Marillac in Emmitsburg, Maryland, in 1809 by Mother Mary Xavier Mehegan. After the establishment of the Convent Station in 1860, Mother Mehegan swiftly established educational programs amongst other community outreach programs and institutions to address and assist with services to the public. In 1886, the Sisters established St. Joseph's Hospital in Paterson, NJ.

During the 1860's, the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth had difficulty gathering funds for the fledgling hospital. The Sisters petitioned the city for its support and reached out within the community, such as, local factories, workers, owners, and some of the wealthier residents in the community for financial assistance. They farmed their land to feed the patients and would sell the remainder in order to support their hospital. They depended on the generosity and kindness of the community to help the infirmed citizens find comfort and care. Through all of this dedicated hard work, support and effort, the Sisters slowly expanded the hospital and began to build the large healthcare system that we know today.

Throughout the majority of St. Joseph's history, charismatic and determined women guided the hospital, turning challenges into opportunities. In 1875, Sister Mary Clare Reilly became the first of several influential leaders who would shape the essence of St. Joseph's.

A champion for the hospital for more than four decades, "Mother Clare" as she was called, was renowned for her strength of judgement, business sense, and ability to be flexible and progressive.

In more recent times, we appreciate the significant contributions that Sister Jane Frances Brady made to the success of St. Joseph's. Sister Jane remains an icon in The State of New Jersey as a passionate advocate for the needs of the sick and the poor. Sr. Jacqueline Burns, SC, also a dynamic leader and immediate past Chairperson of the Boards of Trustees of SJHS, led the integration of the Healthcare System and revitalization of our organization.

The Sisters provide an inspirational leadership presence throughout St. Joseph's Healthcare System, with 30 sisters ministering within SJHS. Today, the sisters sponsor one college, two academies, three hospitals and one women's center. The Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth remain focused on the heart of their calling: service and advocacy through their work including research and dialogue on major issues of social and global significance.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing and commemorating individuals who have dedicated their lives to serving the people. The Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth's commitment to public service is truly commendable.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues to celebrate the long record of service to their community by the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF PATRICK AWOSOGBA AND SUPPORT OF CHILDREN'S CARDIOMYOPATHY AWARENESS MONTH

#### HON. BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Patrick Awosogba and in support of Children's Cardiomyopathy Awareness Month.

Patrick Awosogba was an avid baseball player and a graduate of East Brunswick High School. In 2015, Patrick tragically passed away while playing pick-up basketball during his freshman year at Rutgers University from an undiagnosed case of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy. Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy is a chronic and degenerative heart disease that thickens the heart muscle, causing an irregular heartbeat and which can tragically lead to death. Patrick was a beloved son and brother and cherished member of his community.

September is Children's Cardiomyopathy Awareness Month. Cardiomyopathy is one of the leading causes of sudden death in young people, and the primary cause of heart transplants in children over the age of one. Knowing your family's history and heart health, and discussing it with your doctor, can help determine whether your child is at risk. The mortality rate for pediatric cardiomyopathy exceeds that of all childhood cancers combined, and yet there is a shocking lack of both awareness and research on this terrible disease.

Children's Cardiomyopathy Foundation, based in my home state of New Jersey, is a leading nonprofit which provides resources and support to families struggling to care for their children suffering from this condition. They work to raise awareness for the potentially fatal disease. Along with their grassroots network of families, they also advocate for research and policies that help those suffering from pediatric cardiomyopathy.

I urge my colleagues to join me in remembering the life of Patrick Awosogba and in raising awareness for pediatric cardiomyopathy.

#### SEYFER AUTOMOTIVE

#### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Seyfer Automotive for receiving the City of Wheat Ridge's Business of the Year Award for 2017.

The Business of the Year Award recognizes local businesses who demonstrate a commitment to their community, strong management practices and are a positive reflection of the City of Wheat Ridge's values.

As noted in their mission and vision statement, "For over 50 years, Seyfer Automotive has provided expert, quality auto repair. Wheat Ridge drivers have come to know them for their reputation of fixing problems that no other shop can fix. Their mission is to provide their customer and their vehicle with the quality service they expect and deserve. The



Wheat Ridge auto repair team takes pride in their ability to outperform local dealerships.”

I applaud Seyfer Automotive for being the recipient of this well-deserved honor by the City of Wheat Ridge, and I congratulate them on their success.

IN RECOGNITION OF D/F/LT. MARY KAPP FOR HER DISTINGUISHED CAREER IN THE MICHIGAN STATE POLICE DEPARTMENT

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2017*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Detective 1st Lieutenant Mary Kapp for over 33 years of distinguished service to the Michigan State Police Department. She has worked tirelessly to help keep Michigan communities safe through her career as a law enforcement officer.

Lieutenant Kapp has served in the Michigan State Police Department since the 1980s. Prior to becoming a trooper, she was an athletic trainer in Lansing; she chose to pursue her dream career as a police trooper after the Michigan State Police Department dropped its height requirement. She has served in various capacities at the Michigan State Police Department, including as commander of the Monroe Post, as administrative leader of the Monroe Area Narcotics Team and Investigative Services, as a law enforcement officer overseeing Detroit casinos and as leader of the Downriver Area Narcotics Organization. The initiatives and programs implemented by Lieutenant Kapp has helped to make Michigan communities safer to live and work in.

Throughout her tenure, Kapp has been a tireless advocate for drug reform and community outreach, especially to high school students. She was named the 2016 Prevention Person of the Year by the Michigan Prevention Association, in honor of her work collaborating with local organizations and coalitions. Successful programs ran by Kapp include the Downriver Anti-Trafficking Coalition, Stop Underage Drinking and Drugs Coalition, and regular visits to local high school classrooms. Kapp is committed to educating community members about substance abuse and aided the department in collecting over 990 pounds of prescription drugs in 2016. She has performed the critical work of ensuring that Michigan residents remain safe at great personal risk. She is loved in our community, and her hard work and expertise will be missed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Detective 1st Lieutenant Mary Kapp for her service to the state of Michigan. She has helped make the community safer through her work and outreach.

HONORING THE 2017 PORTUGUESE AMERICAN LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2017*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleagues, Mr. VALADAO, Mr.

CICILLINE, and Mr. ZELDIN, Co-Chairs of the Congressional Portuguese Caucus, to recognize the recipients of the 21st Annual Portuguese-American Leadership Awards as bestowed by the Portuguese American Leadership Council of the United States (PALCUS). These recipients are unique individuals who have accomplished much throughout their careers and continue to uphold their cultural traditions and lead the next generation.

Receiving the Leadership in the Arts Award, Ms. Ana Ventura Miranda founded the Arte Institute on April 11, 2001, an organization dedicated to promoting Portuguese culture, highlighting multiple aspects of Portuguese art including literature, music, dance, and film. This institute serves as a platform for Portuguese artists to connect and showcase their work in New York. In 2011, Ms. Ventura Miranda organized the first New York Portuguese Short Film Festival showing a total of twenty films, providing Portuguese film directors an opportunity to share their work.

Receiving the Leadership in Scholarship Award, Dr. Francisco Cota Fagundes of the University of Massachusetts Amherst is in his thirty-ninth year of teaching. Dr. Fagundes's studies are focused on contemporary Portuguese literature, specifically of the Portuguese North American diaspora. At the University of Massachusetts Amherst, he is a Professor of Spanish and Portuguese Studies. Dr. Fagundes has also written over thirty books and numerous articles on a wide array of topics.

Receiving the Leadership in Entrepreneurship Award, Ms. Maria Lawton “the Azorean Green Bean” is known for her authentic, Azorean cooking. With her popular cookbook *Azorean Cooking: From My Family's Table to Yours*, Ms. Lawton continues her quest to recreate her family recipes for everyone to enjoy.

Receiving the Leadership in Education Award, Mr. Alan Tenreiro is the President of Mt. Saint Charles Academy, a Catholic Junior and Senior High School located in Woonsocket, Rhode Island. Over the years, Mr. Tenreiro has been recognized for his leadership work as a principal. During his tenure at Cumberland High School, the school saw a significant rise in test scores, major drop in disciplinary issues, and an increase in the amount of advanced placement classes offered.

Receiving the Leadership in Community Service Award, Ms. Rosa Leal is the Founder & President of the Daughters of Portugal. Ms. Leal is the founder and main organizer in the Mineola Portugal Day Parade. This year she was honored as the Grand Marshal of the event. In addition, Ms. Leal also serves as the Vice President of the New York Portuguese-American Leadership Conference.

Receiving the Young Portuguese-American “Promessa” Award, Mr. Adam Costa is also a 2017 United Kingdom Fulbright Scholar recipient. As a graduate of Bridgewater State University in 2017, Mr. Costa will be using his Fulbright Scholarship to begin a master's program in politics abroad in England at the University of Manchester. He will continue his comparative research which he started at Bridgewater State on youth violence reduction programs.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that we ask our colleagues to join us in recognizing and honoring the 21st Annual Portuguese-

American Leadership Award recipients. These individuals are exemplary leaders who continue to inspire the next generation of Portuguese American Leaders.

HONORING CLARIBEL LOUISE LEMM HILL AND HAROLD MILLARD “BUD” HILL

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2017*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Clair and Harold Hill upon the occasion of their one-hundredth birthdays. Clair was born on August 14, 1917 and Harold was born September 16, 1917.

Clair and Harold were born and raised in Chico, California where they graduated from Chico High School. They were married on September 4, 1938. Harold enlisted in the United States Air Force during World War II, serving from December 1943 to January 1946. He attended radar school, and they moved to Boca Raton, Florida where he worked as a radar instructor. In 1956, Clair and Harold moved to Santa Rosa, California, where they have lived ever since.

Harold started a successful insurance business and Clair became an artist. She sold her beautiful landscape paintings all around Sonoma County. She also started a popular costume rental business, designing and sewing the costumes herself. They have three daughters, Patricia, Janet and Barbara, nine grandchildren and seventeen great-grandchildren. Their home is a gathering place for family, friends and neighbors who enjoy their warm hospitality.

Clair and Harold have been valuable members of our community and have served as strong mentors to our young people. Clair volunteered with the P.T.A., Campfire Girls and the 4-H Club. Harold was a member of the Lions Club and Elks Club. For many years, he volunteered in an elementary school classroom and as an after school mentor for children who needed extra support.

Clair and Harold have enjoyed watching their family expand and have continued to develop their interests and skills. Clair was an avid flower gardener and was active in the Redwood Garden Club. She is a talented cook and baker. Harold enjoys growing vegetables, and reading and writing poetry. He is a lifelong golfer, hitting a hole-in-one at the age of 98.

Mr. Speaker, Clair and Harold Hill have led long, wonderful lives. Their service during World War II, entrepreneurial spirit and lifelong community service epitomize what Tom Brokaw has called the Greatest Generation. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor them on their one hundredth birthdays this year.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. KATHERINE M. CLARK**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2017*

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I was regrettably detained and missed Roll



Call vote number 538. Had I been present, I would have voted no.

MIKE STITES

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Mike Stites for receiving the City of Wheat Ridge's City Council Partnership Award for 2017. Selected by the Wheat Ridge City Council, the Council Partnership Award recognizes businesses or individuals showing strong community ties and a positive reflection of the City of Wheat Ridge's values.

The Council unanimously selected Mr. Stites for his lifelong commitment to Wheat Ridge. Mr. Stites recently closed his successful B&F Tire Company on 38th Avenue where he and his father ran the shop until Mr. Stites retired in early 2017.

I applaud Mike Stites for being the recipient of this well-deserved honor by the City of Wheat Ridge, and I congratulate him on his success.

THE DREAM ACT

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to include in the RECORD letters of support for the DREAM Act from several California colleges and universities, and the County of Los Angeles:

SEPTEMBER 8, 2017.

Re Immigration Reform for Undocumented Students.

Hon. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO,  
Longworth House Office Building,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE NAPOLITANO: On Tuesday, U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced that the administration planned to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. This program provides immigrant students brought to the United States as minors the opportunity to enroll in a college or university and seek authorization to work without fear of deportation. To date, nearly 800,000 students have applied for DACA status, with nearly one-third—223,000—calling California home. These students are currently pursuing academic and vocational pathways that position them for future success; the termination of the DACA program threatens these students, their families, our institutions, and our communities. Accordingly, we implore Congress to act swiftly to create a permanent solution for these students.

At minimum, we urge the passage of H.R. 496, the "Bar Removal of Individuals who Dream and Grow our Economy" or BRIDGE Act, sponsored by Reps. Coffman (R-CO) and Gutiérrez (D-IL). This bipartisan bill would codify the DACA program, allowing students registered under DACA to continue their studies and/or maintain the ability to work with a new, protected status for a period of up to three years. It would also safeguard the privacy of their personal information except in cases of national security or criminal investigation.

More so, we encourage you to adopt a more comprehensive measure, such as H.R. 3440, the DREAM Act of 2017, sponsored by Reps. Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL) and Roybal-Allard (D-CA). This bipartisan bill would create a pathway to permanent legal status for students and military service personnel who call the United States home. In doing so, this more comprehensive measure would communicate that students' and veterans' efforts to work hard, protect our nation, graduate from college, and find meaningful and gainful employment, would give them a permanent opportunity to provide financially for their families, to engage in community and civic life, and, ultimately, to achieve the American dream.

Though a politically complex issue, we entreat you to act now. An Economist/YouGov poll taken September 3-5, 2017, reveals widespread bipartisan support for the DACA program. Nearly 60% of all registered voters supported or strongly supported DACA, including 53% among Republicans and 70% among Democrats. In addition, more than 55% of voters under age 29 and older than age 65 support this program. It enjoyed favor across race, ethnicity, and income levels. In addition, education leaders of private and public institutions across the state have pledged near-universal support for students in the DACA program, and faith communities are overwhelmingly supportive of immigration reform measures that offer protection to DACA/DREAMer students.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS,

Los Angeles, CA, September 15, 2017.

Hon. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO,  
House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE NAPOLITANO: We are writing to respectfully urge you to support a permanent legislative solution for all the recipients of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program and their families.

The pending termination of the DACA program puts at stake the future of nearly 800,000 young people nationwide. California is home to one in four DACA recipients, of which half reside in Southern California. In addition to the personal impact to these young individuals and their families, DACA's termination would hurt the nation's economic viability. Ending DACA and admonishing recipients from the labor force could cost the United States \$460.3 billion in GDP and decrease Social Security and Medicare contributions by \$24.6 billion over the next decade.

Action by Congress in the next six months is critical to the future of DACA recipients and our nation. Our Board supports the DREAM Act of 2017, bipartisan legislation that would allow DACA recipients to earn lawful permanent residence and provides them a pathway to American citizenship. The DREAM Act exemplifies the type of strong legislative solution that would allow these young immigrants to continue contributing to our communities.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS,  
Chairman of the  
Board, Supervisor,  
Second District.

HILDA L. SOLIS,  
Supervisor, First District.

SHEILA KUEHL,  
Supervisor, Third District.

JANICE HAHN,  
Supervisor, Fourth District.

KATHRYN BARGER,  
Supervisor, Fifth District.

IN MEMORY OF MR. ALTO "BUD"  
ADAMS, JR.

HON. THOMAS J. ROONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Alto "Bud" Adams, Jr. of Fort Pierce, Florida, who passed away on September 22nd at the age of 91 in his home on Adam's Ranch in Fort Pierce.

Bud Adams, a larger than life cowboy known for his integrity and firm handshake, was a fixture in Florida's agricultural community. Bud was the patriarch of the Adams Ranch, a four generation family operation that spans 80 years and spreads across more than 50,000 acres in four counties. He began managing the ranch with his father in 1947 after serving in the Navy during World War II. A legend among Florida cattlemen, Bud was responsible for the development of the Braford breed of beef cattle, a breed capable of withstanding Florida's hot and rainy summers. He served as the President of the Florida Cattlemen's Association, and is also a member of Florida's Agricultural Hall of Fame.

Bud was also an ardent conservationist and environmentalist who not only believed, but proved, that the land could be worked in a way that preserved Florida's natural beauty. He was an avid wildlife and nature photographer who could capture the natural splendor of God's creation through the lens of his camera. His photographs of Florida's landscape and wildlife have been featured in numerous books and magazines. For his conservation efforts, Bud was recognized by both the National Cattlemen's Association and the Florida Cattlemen's Association for environmental stewardship, and he was named landowner of the year by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Bud's land that he bought, developed, managed, and cared for with his family, will continue to stand as a lasting testament to his dedication to preserving Florida's beauty.

Bud is survived by his loving wife of 67 years, Dorothy "Dot" Adams, his three sons Alto, Michael, and Robert, his fourteen grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Florida has truly lost an icon. My thoughts and prayers are with Bud's family and loved ones as they mourn his passing. Bud Adams will be greatly missed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, there is no question that we should deport known criminal gang members who are undocumented. That's why I voted for H.R. 3697, the Criminal Alien Gang Member Removal Act. However, I have real concerns about the overly vague language of

this bill and believe there is much room to improve. We need to make sure that families, humanitarian aid workers, and religious institutions that help rehabilitate gang members are not penalized. I am disappointed that the House leadership did not follow regular order or allow amendments to the bill, so we could have addressed these concerns. I urge the Senate to work together to make improvements to the overly broad language in the bill.

TIM ROGERS

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Tim Rogers for receiving the City of Wheat Ridge's Mayor's Partnership Award for 2017. Selected by the Mayor of Wheat Ridge, Joyce Jay, the Mayor's Partnership Award recognizes businesses or individuals that show strong community ties and a positive reflection of the City of Wheat Ridge's values.

The Mayor selected Mr. Rogers for his continued support of the City of Wheat Ridge. Besides his day job as a commercial real estate broker for Genessee Commercial Group, Rogers is the Chair of "Renewal Wheat Ridge," the City's Urban Renewal Authority. Under his guidance, the City has seen growth and development of new housing and retail opportunities, among other developments and projects within the city.

I applaud Tim Rogers for being the recipient of this well-deserved honor by the City of Wheat Ridge, and I congratulate him on his success.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, September 26, 2017, I requested and received a leave of absence for the rest of the week due to an illness in the family.

For the information of our colleagues and my constituents, below is how I would have voted on the following vote I missed during this time period.

On Roll Call 532, on ordering the previous question (providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2824 and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2792) Control Unlawful Fugitive Felons Act), I would have voted no;

On Roll Call 533, on agreeing to the Resolution to Increasing Opportunity through Evidence-Based Home Visiting Act and providing for consideration of the Control Unlawful Fugitive Felons Act, I would have voted no;

On Roll Call 534, on approving the Journal, I would have voted no;

On Roll Call 535, on agreeing to the Pascarell Amendment, I would have voted aye;

On Roll Call 536, on motion to recommit with instructions (Increasing Opportunity and Success for Children and Parents through Evidence-Based Home Visiting Act), I would have voted aye;

On Roll Call 537, on passage of Increasing Opportunity and Success for Children and Parents through Evidence-Based Home Visiting Act, I would have voted no;

On Roll Call 538, on ordering the previous question, Providing for consideration of H.R. 3823, Disaster Tax Relief and Airport and Airway Extension Act of 2017; and providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules, I would have voted no;

On Roll Call 539, on agreeing to the Resolution, I would have voted no;

On Roll Call 540, Recognizing that for 50 years the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) has worked toward stability, prosperity, and peace in Southeast Asia, I would have voted aye;

On Roll Call 541, Democratic Motion to Recommit to H.R. 3823, I would have voted aye;

On Roll Call 542, on passage of H.R. 3823, Disaster Tax Relief and Airport and Airway Extension Act of 2017, I would have voted no; and

On Roll Call 543, Passage of H.R. 2792, Control Unlawful Fugitive Felons Act of 2017, I would have voted no.

### CELEBRATING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OAK LAWN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

#### HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce as it celebrates 70 years of service to the community.

Founded in 1947, the Oak Lawn Chamber started as a small group of local business owners. Since then, it has grown to more than 350 members who work tirelessly to promote the local business community in Oak Lawn, Illinois. The Chamber is successful because leaders like current Executive Director Julie Miller and President Adam Woodworth strive to fulfill the mission of advancing the business community "with constant integrity, fairness, and cooperation to promote and improve the economic atmosphere, business climate, and image of Oak Lawn."

The Chamber takes great pride in being an active member of the community and its members show their commitment to the organization and its role in the area at a variety of programs throughout the year. Events such as health fairs, small business clinics, and business showcases facilitate invaluable relationships between businesses and their local clientele.

Additionally, the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce offers valuable marketing and communications resources to help promote and inform small businesses. Specifically, their legislative committee aims to keep members informed about proposals from all levels of government that could impact them.

Through its dedication to the interests of local business owners, the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce has contributed immensely to the hospitable business climate of Oak Lawn and the surrounding area. I sincerely offer the Chamber's many dedicated members my heartfelt congratulations on the occasion of its 70th anniversary.

Among those most dedicated to advancing the mission of the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce, is the following list of past presidents.

1947—James Sweeney, 1949—Charles McKay, 1950—Matt Smilde, 1951—Elmer Buell, 1953—Warren Schlieske, 1955—Roland Beckley, 1956—Milt Betterman, 1957—Al Schintz, 1958—Stephen Kizaric, 1959—William Cairnes, 1960—Stanley Dawson, 1961—Donald Talac, 1963—Erwin Fueren, 1964—Dr. J. Salus, 1965—Percy Cump, 1966—John Spicer, 1968—Lou Kole, 1969—Ron Frank, 1970—Matt Lamb, 1972—Vincent Barcelona.

1973—Le Roy Corradino, 1974—Frank Bablak, 1975—Merrill Stenbon, 1976—Davis Boyd, 1977—Milt Andersen, 1978—Betty Gallo, 1979—Lou Mirabelli, 1980—Barbara Kozlerek, 1981—Sal Crivellone, 1982—Vina O'Malley, 1983—Robert Gaul, 1984—Linda McFarland, 1985—James Buschbach, 1986—Marie Napolillo, 1987—Paul Paskvan, 1988—Tom Gavin III, 1989—Marianthe Karson, 1990—Robert Kuenster, 1991—George Freitag, 1992—Dorthea Grieco.

1993—Shirley Mis, 1994—Brian Anderson, 1995—Klem Brzuskiwicz, 1996—Joann Buschbach, 1997—James Brady, 1998—Laura Shallow, 1999—Chris Augle, 2000—Doris Marks, 2001—Chuck Dinolfo, 2002—Patricia Nienhaus, 2003—Dave Kobak, 2004—Anne Marie Casey, 2005—Jack Baker, 2006—Leo Gutchewsky, 2007—Kevin Mathers/Jackie Truty, 2008—Jackie Truty, 2009—Glen Kato, 2010—Rita Olsen, 2011—Christy Hernandez, 2012—Karen Boll, 2013—Jeff Reichl, 2014—Michelle Williams, 2015—Jennifer Villifan, 2016—Larry Lehman.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. BILL PASCARELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Mr. PASCARELL. Mr. Speaker, on September 28, 2017, I missed four Roll Call votes because I was attending a funeral for my cousin in New Jersey. Had I been present, I would have voted:

YES on the Democratic Motion to Recommit on H.R. 3823, Disaster Tax Relief and Airport and Airway Extension Act of 2017 (Roll Call No. 541). This amendment includes the full, bipartisan National Disaster Tax Relief Act, which I introduced with my colleague Representative TOM REED from New York. The Reed-Pascarell bill would help victims of natural disasters recover faster with tax relief to alleviate cleanup and rebuilding expenses. The bipartisan bill would provide tax relief to communities across the country devastated in a presidentially-declared disaster in recent years. The amendment takes nothing away from the underlying bill, only making tax relief more robust for victims of recent hurricanes, and adding tax relief for victims of Sandy and other disasters.

NO on final passage of H.R. 3823, Disaster Tax Relief and Airport and Airway Extension Act of 2017 (Roll Call No. 542). I was pleased to support aid to those affected by Harvey and Irma and will continue to do so. We urgently need to deliver relief and assistance to those currently impacted by Hurricane Maria in the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, where the

entire island has lost power and many are without water. But, I would have cast my vote in opposition to this legislation before us today, which does not even come close to providing the robust relief that Puerto Rico needs. The Congress and this Administration need to step up and help Puerto Rico recover. However, this bill includes extraneous provisions that provide limited tax relief to 2017 hurricane victims while omitting natural disaster tax relief for victims of disasters from 2012 through 2016. The bill before us today completely circumvented the committee process, despite the fact that Representative REED and I have had legislation on comprehensive disaster tax relief for years.

NO on final passage of H.R. 2792, the Control Unlawful Fugitive Felons Act of 2017 (Roll Call No. 543). This bill would harm vulnerable seniors and individuals with disabilities by cutting off their live-saving Supplemental Security Income benefits without due process, and in many cases for offenses with low monetary values, probation violations for misdemeanor offenses, and unpaid court fees or fines. I voted in opposition to this bill when it was considered by the Committee on Ways and Means on September 13, 2017, and I would have opposed it again today.

YES on the Journal Vote.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO STRAFFORD HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

#### HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2017 Strafford High School Girls Basketball Team on an undefeated season that was topped off with a state championship title.

The Strafford Indians maintained absolute perfection throughout the 2017 girls basketball season, failing to lose a single game and finishing with an outstanding 33–0 win-loss record.

Strafford emerged victorious in March 2017 with a Missouri Class 3 girls basketball state championship. This is the Indian's second straight girls basketball state championship in a row after a title in 2016 as well.

I am honored to recognize the Strafford High School Girls Basketball Team on their magnificent season and dedication to hard work and excellence. On behalf of Missouri's 7th Congressional District, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating these impressive young women on their great season.

#### HONOR FLIGHT OF OREGON

#### HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the twenty World War II veterans and one Korean War veteran from Oregon who are visiting their memorial on the National Mall on Saturday, September 30th, 2017 through Honor Flight of Oregon. Every time I have the

chance to meet one of these heroes from the "Greatest Generation," I am reminded of the poignant words of General Dwight D. Eisenhower. In a message to Allied troops just before D-Day, he said, "The eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you."

He was right then, of course, Mr. Speaker. But over seventy years later, liberty-loving people everywhere continue to owe these heroes for their extraordinary service and their incredible stories of sacrifice and bravery on behalf of our country. That's why it is my privilege to enter their names into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD today.

The veterans on this Honor Flight from Oregon are as follows: William Cochran, Army; Warren Davis, Army; Richard Fultineer, Army; William Johnson, Army; John Ritz, Army; Jack Downs, Army Air Force; Lawrence Willis, Army Air Force; Charles Krieger, Marine Corps; Hiram Underwood, Marine Corps; Harry Howard Jr., Merchant Marine; John Webber, Merchant Marine; Raymond Ayers, Navy; Ernest Gallo, Navy; Paul Gessford, Navy; Lawrence Horton, Navy; Stanley Luther, Navy; Lester Manosar, Navy; Harold Simpson Sr., Navy; Orville Stoltz, Navy; Gerhard Tank, Navy; and Paul Vincent, Navy.

These twenty-one heroes join over 150,000 veterans who have been honored through the Honor Flight Network of volunteers nationwide since 2005.

I would also like to recognize the fourteen guardians traveling on this trip who have also served our country: Leon Clay Jr., Air Force; Charles Wills, Air Force; Ronald Kohl, Army and Air Force; Lyle Gessford, Army; Steven Howard, Army; Terry Wynkoop, Army; Gordon Wood, Marine Corps; Laurie Dutton, Navy; Terry Haines, Navy; David Haines, Navy; Chester Johnson, Navy; Larry Kennedy, Navy; Richard Santillie, Navy; and Tanya Wilson, Navy.

I would also like to recognize Richard Wing Jr., who served our Veterans for 36 years as an RN at the VA Hospital, in Palo Alto, California.

And, of course, none of this would be possible without Gail Yakopatz, the longtime President of Honor Flight of Oregon. Gail has assisted hundreds of veterans, has been a tireless advocate for Oregon's veterans and is someone I am proud to call my friend!

Mr. Speaker, at the height of the Civil War in 1863, President Abraham Lincoln wrote, "Honor to the Soldier, and Sailor everywhere, who bravely bears his country's cause." Each of us in this Chamber and in this nation should be humbled by the courage of these brave veterans who put themselves in harm's way for our country and way of life. As a nation, we can never fully repay the debt of gratitude owed to them for their honor, commitment, and sacrifice in defense of the freedoms we have today.

My colleagues, please join me in thanking these veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Oregon for their exemplary dedication and service to this great country.

TINAMARIE SEYFER

#### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Tinamarie Seyfer for receiving the City of Wheat Ridge's Member of the Year Award. This award recognizes businesses or individuals who have dedicated the past year for their contribution to the organization and the community, and are a positive reflection of the City of Wheat Ridge's values.

Tinamarie Seyfer spearheaded a new fundraising idea at the Wheat Ridge Holiday Lighting Ceremony—the tree auction. Tinamarie found groups and businesses to donate and decorate the trees for auction. She then worked to deliver the trees to the buyers' homes or offices. Tinamarie serves on the Wheat Ridge Business Association board and assisted with the 2017 Ridgefest Car Show along with her husband, Troy. Tinamarie and Troy also hosted one of the monthly "Biz Mix" networking events, as well as owning her own business, "Five Rings Financial."

I applaud Tinamarie Seyfer for being the recipient of this well-deserved honor by the City of Wheat Ridge, and I congratulate her on her success.

H.R. 3354

#### HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 3354, the Make America Secure and Prosperous Appropriations Act. I am grateful to the Chairman and Ranking Member for including many of my policy priorities in the bill, but I cannot support the final measure because of the devastating cuts to education funding, environmental resources, and our nation's healthcare system.

In 2015, Congress passed the bipartisan Every Student Succeeds Act. It is our responsibility to provide the resources necessary for states and localities to fully serve students as authorized by ESSA. Unfortunately, the bill we are voting on undermines one of the great successes of the ESSA by significantly underfunding the Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants. Congress intended these grants to go to school districts so they can provide locally-tailored programming and supportive services for students, including school-based mental health programs, drug prevention programs, expanded access to arts, music, and foreign language programs, and other programs that fit the needs of districts. I am grateful that my amendment to highlight the need for full funding of this program was included in the bill, but I am deeply disappointed that we have not committed to providing this critical resource to local communities.

Another central tenet of the ESSA was a commitment to reducing student testing, and making sure that states and school districts are able to audit their assessment systems and eliminate duplicative and ineffective tests.

The State Assessment Grants provide funding for these efforts, and I thank the Appropriations Committee for accepting my bipartisan amendment to fully fund these efforts.

The final bill includes my bipartisan amendment to increase funding for Women in Apprenticeship and Nontraditional Occupations Grants, which will provide tradeswomen in Oregon the support and assistance necessary to advance their careers and retain good-paying jobs. The bill also includes my amendment to fund Title VIII Nursing Workforce Programs through separate line-items, which will preserve funding for the individual programs, including Advanced Education Nursing; Nursing Workforce Diversity; Nurse Education, Practice, and Retention; and the Nurse Faculty Loan Program.

Additionally, my amendment to provide critical resources to combat coastal climate threats by highlighting the need for funding ocean acidification programs was adopted, as was my amendment to increase funding to mitigate harmful algal blooms. Ocean acidification and harmful algal blooms are decimating our oceans and lakes, destroying wildlife, and crippling our local economies. Increasing funding for NOAA's ocean acidification and harmful algal blooms programs will give our coastal communities additional resources to understand and address these threats.

Despite these victories, the bill did not earn my support because of the harmful cuts and policy riders that remain. The bill underfunds the Environmental Protection Agency and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and undermines the National Oceans Policy. It eliminates Title X Family Planning, and eliminates funding for Teen Pregnancy Prevention Programs. The bill undermines the Affordable Care Act by prohibiting funding from being used to further provisions of the law, including ACA navigators. As Congress continues work on an FY2018 funding package, I urge my colleagues to put aside their partisan policy priorities and advance a bill that invests in our communities and sets them up for success.

#### FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MARKUP

### HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2017*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank Chairman ROYCE for convening this mark-up on a number of substantive pieces of legislation. As our time is limited, I will focus on a few key items.

I am an original cosponsor of H.R. 3445, and I thank Chairman ROYCE and Ranking Member ENGEL, as well as my friend and colleague KAREN BASS, for trying to strengthen the African Growth and Opportunity Act.

I would like to thank my good friend and fellow member of the New Jersey delegation, ALBIO SIREs, for his bipartisan Global Health Innovation Act of 2017, H.R. 1660, of which I am a cosponsor.

This bill will allow us to exercise greater oversight over USAID programs and to gauge how effectively USAID is developing and utilizing innovations in health programs.

I support H.R. 3320 and commend Chairman YOHO for his work on this timely bill. The

Chinese Communist government has been slowly squeezing Taiwan's international space, taking extraordinary measures to exclude Taiwan from multi-lateral institutions like the World Health Organization.

Such exclusions create real international blind spots that pose threats to global health and security. As you all know, SARS spread from Taiwan and China to other parts of the globe.

With the World Health Organization in particular, I intend to push for admission of Taiwan.

I commend Ranking Member, Mr. ENGEL, along with Chairman YOHO, Mr. CHABOT, and Mr. SHERMAN, for putting together H. Res. 422, on Hong Kong.

The threats to Hong Kong's autonomy and its freedoms are real and progressing. These freedoms and the rule of law are vital economic interests of the United States and the foundation of the city's vitality, creativity, and entrepreneurial spirit.

Beijing has become more assertive in Hong Kong's affairs over the past several years and ramped up efforts to destroy the pro-democracy movement over the summer. Six legislations were disqualified through unprecedented interventions by the National People's Congress into Hong Kong's judiciary. The pan-democratic minority could stop pro-Beijing legislation in the past, but now it cannot. China can push through any measure it wants now with its block of unelected legislators.

And, as you all know, the Hong Kong government has re-sentenced the leaders of the peaceful Umbrella Movement of 2014. Joshua Wong, Nathan Law, and Alex Chow should now be considered Hong Kong's first political prisoners. They will not be the last, as new trails begin soon.

This resolution is needed but should not be our last word. That is why I introduced, along with Congressman TIM WALZA (a fellow CECC Commissioner), the Hong Kong Human Rights & Democracy Act—a bill that I introduced in the last Congress and which has been introduced by Senator MARCO RUBIO and Senator BEN CARDIN in the Senate.

I would urge my colleagues to consider this legislation and find ways to protect U.S. interests in a free and autonomous Hong Kong in addition to Ranking Member ENGEL's resolution which is before us today.

Hizballah is a cancer that has metastasized in Lebanon and threatens to invade nearly every corner of the region if we do not stay vigilant. H.R. 3329, introduced by Chairman ROYCE, would choke off additional sources of financial support for this malignant growth, particularly by targeting the group's grass roots fundraising enterprise that it expanded to circumvent existing sanctions. Building on the Hizballah International Financing Prevention Act that the House passed unanimously in 2015, this bill would require third-party sanctions on those who substantially support Hizballah fundraising operations.

The reports required in this legislation would also go further to ferret out the extent of the group's fundraising network, which it would rightly classify as a transnational criminal organization. Make no mistake: Hizballah is an international crime syndicate, wrapped in an Iranian paramilitary proxy, inside a terrorist organization, masquerading as a political resistance movement.

H.R. 3342 introduced by MIKE GALLAGHER would direct our government to use the tools

at its disposal to impose penalties on Hizballah for employing human shields to defend its installations and outposts. Hizballah's use of innocent human lives to protect its nefarious activities is a clear human rights violation and plainly demonstrates that Hizballah is an enemy of Lebanon's freedom-loving people. The bill also encourages the President to direct our Permanent Representative at the United Nations to use her voice and vote to push for a resolution condemning this sickening practice. I can confidently say that the United States could not ask for a stronger or more clear-eyed defender of American interests and the security of our most critical regional ally, Israel, at the UN than Ambassador Haley.

#### RECOGNIZING DAVID C. PUCKETT

### HON. TIM WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2017*

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. David C. Puckett as he completes 35 years of service as CEO of American 1 Credit Union, headquartered in Jackson, Michigan.

In 1982, David Puckett began his journey as General Manager of a small, local credit union which had 15 employees and two locations. Today, American 1 Credit Union has nearly 200 employees, provides service to 56,000 members, and has 13 branches located across the state.

David Puckett not only effectively shaped the fiscal success of American 1 Credit Union, but also forged a lasting legacy of giving back to the people of Jackson County. Over the years, American 1 has funded and provided manpower to support many community programs such as Rose Pageant scholarships, the Rose Parade, the Kids Fest program and the American 1 Grand Prix.

Throughout his tenure, David has brought the private and public sectors together in ways that have benefited the community. The most noteworthy example of these partnerships is the agreement made in 2016 in which American 1 will donate \$4 million towards the construction of a convention center in Jackson. The American 1 Credit Union Convention Center will be utilized for conferences, trade shows, weddings, and entertainment, and will foster the ongoing development of Jackson's downtown riverfront area.

David Puckett's leadership and spirit of cooperation will be remembered for years to come by all who continue to benefit from the results of his commitment. I congratulate David on an impressive career at American 1 Credit Union and wish him the best in the future.

#### WHEAT RIDGE ANIMAL HOSPITAL

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2017*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Wheat Ridge Animal Hospital for receiving the City of Wheat

Ridge's Reinvestment Award for 2017. The Reinvestment Award recognizes businesses who play an active role in improving the City of Wheat Ridge.

Wheat Ridge Animal Hospital, with more than thirteen years in Wheat Ridge, was selected because of their redevelopment of an old office building, demolition of a blighted older business and their accommodation for parking in their new facility. The company purchased an older two story office building that had been shuttered for over three years. The owners of Wheat Ridge Animal Hospital completely rehabilitated the building to accommodate the re-use.

I applaud Wheat Ridge Animal Hospital for being the recipient of this well-deserved honor by the City of Wheat Ridge, and I congratulate them on their success.

**HONORING COMMUNITY CLINIC ASSOCIATION OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND OTHER COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS IN CALIFORNIA'S 44TH DISTRICT**

**HON. NANETTE DIAZ BARRAGÁN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2017*

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to a health care success story that so many of us here, on both sides of the aisle, can appreciate: the role that our nation's community health centers play in providing high-quality primary and preventive care to more than 27 million patients in nearly 11,000 communities nationwide. Unfortunately, these centers are at risk unless Congress acts quickly to extend funding for programs that support CHCs.

CHCs have provided care for low-income, rural, and underserved communities for more than fifty years. In that time, many of these health centers have expanded to offering integrated services like behavioral health, dental care, and—increasingly—substance use disorder treatments essential to combating nationwide epidemics like opioid addiction. It's this kind of integrated and patient-centered care that leads to better health outcomes for patients, as well as cost-savings for both our nation's health care system and for taxpayers.

In my district, we have 15 federally funded health center organizations who collectively leverage \$46.4 million in federal investment to serve 500,328 people at 22 locations. I've been to many of these locations, and seen in person what a difference these organizations make in the lives of our neighbors, and in the health of our community.

Two years ago, the House of Representatives voted overwhelming to extend funding for CHCs as part of the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015. Now that that deadline is upon us, Congress must act again. This time Congress must pass a long-term extension of at least five years, so that our CHCs can have the predictability and stability they need to recruit providers, purchase equipment, and plan strategically for how to meet the current and future needs of communities. I strongly support keeping funding levels for CHCs whole, something more than 350 members in both the House and Senate signed letters supporting earlier this year.

For the sake of our communities and their health, we can't delay in securing funding for CHCs. It's time to fix the health center funding cliff and invest in a local solution we all know delivers results.

**TRIBUTE TO RICK ELKINS' DEDICATED CAREER IN JOURNALISM AND SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY**

**HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2017*

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional newsman and life-long journalist, whose desire and commitment to inform and strengthen the community led him to an impressive career in journalism spanning nearly four decades.

Rick Elkins retired this August from the Porterville Recorder, leaving an unparalleled legacy of service not only to the newspaper, but also to the community he covered. As one of California's longest-serving and most locally-invested journalists, Rick spent 22 out of his 39 years in journalism at the Porterville Recorder before his retirement last month.

Rick began his career as a reporter in January of 1976. Ever since, his inquisitive nature has yielded countless stories covering many facets of life. From our region's historic drought to the infamous Tulare County cocaine bust in the late 1980s, Rick kept the people of Porterville and the surrounding communities well-informed for decades. The magnitude of his service has earned him recognition as one of California's great journalists.

There are many individuals around our community who turned to the Porterville Recorder to learn what was happening in Porterville and Tulare County because of Rick's professionalism and dedication to truthful news coverage. His career and contributions reflect his attitude toward treating the community as a

family, among which was his leadership in returning the Porterville Recorder's focus to local news first. As the Representative for California's 23rd Congressional District, I greatly value the importance of an informed citizenry and holding elected officials accountable. The press plays a key role in that. I always looked forward to being interviewed by Rick—he always had his thumb on the pulse of the community and got to the crux of the issues on the community's mind. This approach to journalistic integrity was also reflected by how he ran the Porterville Recorder, earning the respect of his reporters, staff, and the local community. Rick's reporting reflected his passion to make sure his readers got the facts of the story and he respected them enough to allow them to draw their own conclusions.

I am confident Rick's legacy will live on for generations to come and that his contribution to our community will have a lasting impact. I thank Rick for his lifetime of service to journalism and his lasting impact on Porterville. I'm sure Rick is looking forward to spending more time with his wife, Doris, and Dana, his daughter, as he begins this new chapter of his life. I wish Rick and his family happiness in his retirement and look forward to his continued involvement in our community.

**WHEAT RIDGE POULTRY**

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 28, 2017*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Wheat Ridge Poultry and Meats for receiving the City of Wheat Ridge's Business of the Year Award for 2017.

The Business of the Year Award recognizes local businesses who demonstrate a commitment to their community, strong management practices and are a positive reflection of the City of Wheat Ridge's values.

As noted in their mission and vision statement, "Your local butcher has been on duty since 1942 offering fresh cuts of beef, pork and chicken served from our fresh meat case. Add simplicity, variety and freshness to your family table. Our poultry comes from farms where the birds roam free and animals have spacious barns. Our selection of jams and jellies offers nothing but the freshest fruits and finest ingredients."

I applaud Wheat Ridge Poultry and Meats for being the recipient of this well-deserved honor by the City of Wheat Ridge, and I congratulate them on their success.