On behalf of my constituents across New Hampshire's Second Congressional District, I thank Patricia Clark for more than half a century of dedicated service to the Granite State. Her achievements will continue to benefit our state and industry. I am honored to recognize and congratulate Patty on her retirement and wish her the best of luck in the years ahead.

CONGRATULATING COLLEGE WOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, A BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2017

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an outstanding school in my district that is being honored as a 2017 National Blue Ribbon School. It is a pleasure to congratulate College Wood Elementary School in Carmel, Indiana in celebration of this special occasion.

The National Blue Ribbon designation, given by the United States Department of Education, is awarded to both public and private schools across our great nation. Started by President Reagan and given annually since 1982, the award celebrates great American schools that achieve very high learning standards or are making significant improvements in the academic achievements of their students. In my district and across the country, the award recognizes the great educators, students, and parents who have worked so hard to ensure our children reach their full potential and achieve academic success.

For all of these reasons and many more, I am so proud that College Wood Elementary School is receiving this prestigious designation. It is a wonderful acknowledgement of the school's commitment to providing young Hoosiers an exceptional education. While hundreds of schools nationwide were nominated, only 342 schools were designated as 2017 National Blue Ribbon Schools. Of the 342 schools, College Wood Elementary School was one of seven Indiana schools to receive recognition, making this recognition all the more impressive.

All College Wood Elementary students are supported by a host of staff members in addition to the classroom teacher. Because of this, students are able to received personalized instruction in several subjects. College Wood Elementary strives to challenge each and every student to reach their fullest potential. With the help of this dedicated staff, academic teams representing College Wood have consistently scored in the top twenty-five percent of participating schools. Their hard work is deservedly rewarded with this Blue Ribbon Award.

As an advocate for education and youth, I also want to acknowledge how important it is to our nation's future to encourage and raise a new generation of Americans who have the skills and knowledge to succeed both in and out of the classroom. Students like those at College Wood Elementary School give me hope that we will accomplish this vital mission. Their outstanding work is an inspiration to students, educators, and parents across the nation. Once again, congratulations to College Wood Elementary School. I am very proud of you.

COMMENDING DANIA E. RODRIGUEZ FOR 20 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH THE ASSOCIATION OF STATE AND TERRITORIAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT OFFICIALS

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2017

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Dania E. Rodriguez for her 20 years of service with the Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials (ASTSWMO).

Dania has been serving in the capacity of Executive Director of the Association of State and Territorial Waste Management Officials in Washington, D.C. since July 2013. She previously served as the Deputy Executive Director of ASTSWMO for six years. During her time at ASTSWMO, she served as the liaison between the states and numerous federal agencies to work on policy issues.

Dania keeps the ASTSWMO running smoothly by providing support to the ASTSWMO staff and Board of Directors. She manages the day-to-day operations to include the association's budget, cooperative agreements.

Dania graduated from Hood College in Frederick, Maryland where she received a B.A. in Political Science. She also holds an Executive Certificate in Nonprofit Management from the McCourt School of Public Policy at Georgetown University. She worked for the American Petroleum Institute before starting her career at ASTSWMO.

Dania has an impressive record of experience and expertise in technical, financial and policy development in environmental work. She holds comprehensive knowledge of state and territorial environmental programs. Dania has been a true friend and advocate of Guam and the region.

She was the first Executive Director of ASTSWMO to directly collaborate with Guam and assist with the development of the first Zero Waste Conference held in Micronesia. She also played a vital role in making the first EPA Pacific Islands Environment Conference come to life for Guam, the CNMI and America Samoa.

On behalf of the people of Guam, I commend Dania for her outstanding service to our community throughout her career. I extend a sincere Si Yu 'us Ma 'åse' (thank you) and look forward to her continued contributions to our island and nation.

OTTO WARMBIER NORTH KOREA NUCLEAR SANCTIONS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2017

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3898, the Otto Warmbier North Korea Nuclear Sanctions Act of 2017. This legislation imposes heavy economic sanctions on North Korea.

These sanctions will signal to North Korea and its enablers that the United States condemns North Korea's current nuclear and long-range missile programs. Specifically, the bill would impose conditions and oversight of foreign banks that seek to open American accounts for any North Korean or any agent of North Korea.

As United Nations Ambassador Nikki Haley stated, "[c]ountless innocent men and women have died at the hands of North Korea, but the singular case of Otto Warmbier touches the American heart like no other." In remembrance of Otto Warmbier, this bill demonstrates to North Korea that its human rights violations and military actions are unacceptable. North Korea's nuclear and long-range missile programs have been a noted threat to our security for many years and its frequent missile testing in the past year demonstrates the even greater risk they now pose. By supporting H.R. 3898, we are showing North Korea that there are consequences to its pursuit of nuclear warfare and we intend to increase economic pressure on it each time they show willingness to use force against us or our allies.

We have a responsibility to do all that we can to protect American citizens. H.R. 3898 will discourage North Korea from further developing their nuclear weapons program and take a much-needed step towards the goal of international peace, and this is why I support this legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2017

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on October 25, 2017. As a result, I was absent for Roll Call votes 585 through 587. Had I been present for Roll Call vote 585, on agreeing to Amendment No. 3 to H.R. 469, I would have voted yes; had I been present for Roll Call vote 586, on agreeing to Amendment No. 4 to H.R. 469, I would have voted yes; and had I been present for Roll Call vote 587, on agreeing to Amendment No. 6 to H.R. 469, I would have voted yes.

HONORING MARYLAND AND DELAWARE'S LAW ENFORCEMENT

HON. ANDY HARRIS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2017

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my gratitude for the bravery of Maryland and Delaware's law enforcement officers and the officers of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

On October 18, a deranged gunman opened fire at Emmorton Business Park in Edgewood, Maryland and a used car dealership in Wilmington, Delaware. Three victims were killed and three more were wounded that day.

I pray for the families of the fallen victims and for the recovery of the injured. Thankfully, our state and local law enforcement and our ATF officers responded quickly to the crisis, and apprehended the shooter after he fled the scene.