

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HONORING ALICE'S KIDS

#### HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 14, 2017*

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss a wonderful organization within my district. There are roughly 20,000 children in Fairfax County living at the poverty level. These children suffer both privately and publicly. Privately, they may not have enough food, no heat or no electricity. All hardships indeed. But when that same child leaves the home, they suffer public indignities that can seriously affect their self-esteem. When they go to school wearing the same dress for five straight days or shoes with holes in them, they can be targets of ridicule. When they cannot afford their senior dues, a sport's physical or a gym uniform, they are embarrassed. When they have to sit home while their friends are enjoying the prom, they experience pain. These situations are especially acute when poor children are integrated with wealthier children, as is often the case in Fairfax County.

Seven years ago this month, my constituent and friend, Ron Fitzsimmons, formed "Alice's Kids," a charity designed to give needy children the opportunity to feel a little bit more "normal" amongst their peers. They have built a network of approximately 500 teachers, school counselors and county social workers who contact Alice's Kids when they identify a child with a "minor" but nonetheless important need. It might be a pair of soccer cleats, glasses or summer camp fees. The child might not be able to afford their senior yearbook, wishes to take music lessons or needs a simple haircut. Within 24 hours, Alice's Kids either writes a check or issues a gift card to the referrer so the child can obtain the item. And the charity purposely does not interact with the family as they prefer to be anonymous to help the child maintain their dignity.

I am pleased to see that this once small charity is now expanding. In addition to children in Fairfax County, they are now serving children in the City of Alexandria and in select schools in Washington, D.C. Even more exciting is that Mr. Fitzsimmons is carrying out his ultimate goal, which is to serve children all across the country as they are now helping children in San Antonio, Seattle, Miami, Charlotte, Nashville and several other cities working in conjunction with the national organization "Communities in Schools."

In 2016, Alice's Kids provided assistance to 683 children. But I am thrilled to note that in 2017, they have already served 767 children! This is the little charity that could. I want to congratulate Alice's Kids as they continue to provide much-needed assistance to children in the D.C. Metropolitan area and wish them luck in their efforts to reach as many children as possible.

### RECOGNIZING THE EMPLOYEES OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

#### HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 14, 2017*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate all of the award winners from the U.S. International Trade Commission who were recognized last week, on Tuesday, November 7, 2017, at their annual Career Service Awards Ceremony.

The employees at the U.S. International Trade Commission are on the front line of enforcing our U.S. trade laws and addressing a wide variety of trade-related issues. U.S. trade laws protect American workers from unfair trade practices and support communities that manufacture and produce the products that power our national economy and that are essential to supporting our national security. The dedicated employees at the U.S. International Trade Commission investigate allegations of unfair trade practices against countries from around the world, and their work is essential to defending good jobs throughout our country, including steel and manufacturing jobs in the First Congressional District of Indiana.

Last week, I was pleased to be able to attend their 2017 Career Service Awards Ceremony, which recognized the outstanding accomplishments of the International Trade Commission staff from the past year. For example, the ceremony presented Quality Step Increase Awards to individuals that received a permanent increase in their rate of pay in recognition of high quality performance above that ordinarily found. The ceremony also presented Superior Accomplishment Awards based on an act, service, or suggestion that contributes to the efficiency or other improvement of government operations. I would note that under this category, an award was presented to the Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate team for providing high quality work products, meeting aggressive statutory deadlines, and adroitly overcoming numerous analytical challenges with a high-profile case that involved the greatest number of countries for a single case in more than a decade.

Additionally, the ceremony presented employees with Length of Service awards, including 40 Years of Service awards for Judith M. Bryant, Deborah A. Daniels, Jean H. Jackson, Myra D. Lay, and Deborah A. McNay, 45 Years of Service awards for William W. Gearhart, Jr., and Linda D. Powell, and a 50 Years of Service award for Tyrone F. Coward.

I also would like to call attention to the Distinguished Service Award winners, Karen Attardo, Attorney-Adviser in the Office of Administrative Services, and Vu Q. Bui, Investigative Attorney in the Office of Unfair Import Investigations. This award is the second-highest honor that can be conferred upon an employee and recipients are chosen by senior management in recognition of notable con-

tributions. Further, I would like to recognize Jennifer Rohrbach, Program Manager in the Office of Operations, as the recipient of the Commissioners' Award for Exceptional Service. This is the highest honor that can be conferred upon an employee and recipients are chosen directly by the Commissioners in recognition of distinguished and exceptional service.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that our former colleague and my friend from Indiana Lee Hamilton said it best when he stated that public service "is not just a way of life, it is a way to live fully." I am incredibly grateful for the invaluable, diligent, and thorough work of all of the employees at the U.S. International Trade Commission. I thank all of them for choosing to have a career in the service of our country and again congratulate all of the award winners for their exemplary performance.

### RECOGNIZING J. MICHAEL ANDERSON

#### HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 14, 2017*

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize J. Michael Anderson, the 2017 recipient of the Zunic Award as presented by the Syracuse Football Club.

The Syracuse Football Club is a group of former Syracuse Orange football players focused on making a difference in the Central New York community. The Zunic Award was created to honor Mike and Judy Zunic, who died tragically in a United Airlines plane crash in Sioux City, Iowa on July 18, 1989. The pilot, anticipating landing difficulties, requested volunteers to give up their seats and sit at the exit doors to assist passengers in the event of an emergency. Mike and Judy gave up their seats in first class to sit at one of the doors. They both died in the crash and those in the Zunic's original seats survived. The Zunic Award honors those, like Mike and Judy, who have acted selflessly for the good of others.

This year's Zunic Award recipient, J. Michael Anderson, is a former Orange offensive lineman, and has tragically lost two of his three sons—Jimmy and Eric. Despite this extraordinary loss, Mike has channeled his own tragedy into advocacy and volunteerism. He and his wife, Flo, have focused on making a difference in the Central New York community and assisting others who have experienced similar tragedy.

Anderson served as a youth basketball coach for more than two decades at Immaculate Heart of Mary in Liverpool, and coached baseball in the Salt City Little League for 10 years. In addition, the Andersons are frequent holiday volunteers at the Syracuse Rescue Mission, serving meals to those less fortunate, and are active participants in the Liverpool Central School District "Dollars for Scholars" program where they have established a scholarship in their son Jimmy's name. Anderson

• 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.

spends part of each day visiting online grief sites offering assistance to those who are struggling with tragedy.

For his tremendous efforts to make a difference in ending this scourge and to make our community a better place, I am proud to join the Syracuse Football Club in honoring J. Michael Anderson.

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HONORING DEBBIE WILLIAMS

**HON. JAMES COMER**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 14, 2017*

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Debbie Williams of Monroe County, Kentucky for her philanthropy in the revitalization of downtown Tompkinsville and her entrepreneurial achievement in attracting new private investment into the Tompkinsville/Monroe County area.

Debbie Williams' first experience in business in Tompkinsville was with Page Brothers—her parents' clothing store located on Main Street which operated next door to my father's dental office until 1979.

Like most of rural America, the 1980's and 1990's saw a massive exodus from downtown retail and office storefronts. Most rural Kentucky downtown areas were filled with vacant, aging buildings badly in need of repair.

Around 2010, Debbie Williams took her entrepreneurial success as co-owner of Bluegrass Dairy and made it her passion to purchase many of the depressed, vacant downtown Tompkinsville storefronts and renovate them. She purchased the building where Page Brothers was located and opened Family Circle Clothing Store. Mrs. Williams also opened and operates Brass Bell in downtown—a home furnishing store.

In two other buildings purchased by Debbie Williams, she has partnered with young entrepreneurs to provide funding for The Flower Cart and Moments in Monroe which are two new start up businesses.

In addition to her downtown Tompkinsville investments, Debbie Williams also owns Spin-out Body Shop and Monroe County's only motel—The Tompkinsville Inn.

Despite Tompkinsville being a small town in an economically depressed region, thanks to Debbie Williams, Tompkinsville is now a hotbed of new investments, and it has one of the most beautiful downtown areas in Kentucky.

Debbie Williams is not just a female entrepreneur success story, she is a hometown hero for her downtown revitalization efforts and her achievement in attracting new private investment into the great town of Tompkinsville, Kentucky.

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MILITARY RETIREMENT—UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

**HON. TREY GOWDY**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 14, 2017*

Mr. GOWDY. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following Proclamation in honor of an exceptional officer in the United States Marine Corps. Colonel Donald L. Revell, will re-

tire in December after more than 30 years of distinguished service to the Marine Corps and the Nation.

Whereas, in May 1986, Colonel Revell graduated from Francis Marion University earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Electronic Engineering Technology.

Whereas, following in his father's Marine Corps footsteps, Colonel Revell was commissioned a Second Lieutenant through the Marine Officer Candidate School Program. A graduate from the Basic Communication Officer School and the Cryptologic Division Officer's School, Colonel Revell was designated a Signals Intelligence Electronic Warfare Officer. His illustrious career would begin with "America's Radio Battalion", the Second Radio Battalion, Fleet Marine Force Atlantic, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

Whereas, over the course of 30 plus years, serving in both active and reserve duty status and in a variety of command and staff assignments, Colonel Revell provided outstanding leadership with integrity and offered sound advice on numerous issues of importance to the Marine Corps and to our Nation.

Whereas, 1 January 2018, Colonel Revell will officially retire from the United States Marine Corps faithfully serving this great nation for 31 years. Be it

Resolved, That I, TREY GOWDY, do congratulate Colonel Donald L. Revell, his wife Beth Anne, their two sons, Griffin and Alexander for their unwavering commitment and devotion to service to our great Nation, and thank them for their unwavering loyalty, dedication and contributions to Spartanburg County and to the Fourth Congressional District of South Carolina.

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IN RECOGNITION OF RICHARD KERN AND A TRADITION OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

**HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 14, 2017*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Richard Kern for his 50 years of service in the East Bangor Fire Department. His accomplishments were celebrated by his peers on the evening of Saturday, November 11.

As a resident of Bangor, Pennsylvania, Richard has been a constant steward of public safety in my District for a half-century. Richard led the department as Fire Chief from 1993 to 1995. During his service he inspired confidence and put his own life at risk to ensure the safety of others. Today, he remains an active member of the fire department as Safety Officer. His dedication to helping others extends beyond the East Bangor Fire Department. Richard is also a life member of the Blue Valley Rescue Squad, an organization founded in 1973 to provide emergency services to the Slate Belt region.

I ask my fellow Members to join me in recognizing Richard Kern for life of service and commitment to the well-being of his community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JAMES B. RENACCI**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 14, 2017*

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted yea on Roll Call No. 623, yea on Roll Call No. 624 and nay on Roll Call No. 625.

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THEODORE EDWIN CLYDE DAVIES, MD

**HON. JAMES COMER**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 14, 2017*

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the outstanding career of Dr. Theodore Davies.

It all began in the mountains of eastern Kentucky, making house calls with his Father. Often, there was no road to help them travel where they needed to go; but, still, they found a way or made their own. This would become the story of young Theodore Edwin Clyde Davies' life. A life spent in dedication to others.

His formal education began at the prestigious McCallie School located on Missionary Ridge in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Founded in 1905, McCallie is highly regarded as a private, Christian based college preparatory school for young boys and men, grades 6 through 12. Here, the virtues of honor, truth, and duty would be fostered, and he would encounter the question, "What is man's chief end?"

Young Theodore next found his way to Vanderbilt University and graduated in 1967. Answering the call to follow in his Father's footsteps, he then attended the University of Louisville School of Medicine and graduated in 1971. His surgical internships and residency in Neurosurgery would take him to the Indiana Medical Center, and Montreal, Canada. In Montreal, he would train on the first CT scanner in North America. Later, during his training in Louisville, he would begin treating patients with the first CT scans in the United States.

The next leg of his journey would lead to the service of his country in the United States Navy. Reporting to both Portsmouth, Virginia, and Okinawa, Japan, he would leave the service with the rank of Lt. Commander.

Finally, on to Paducah, Kentucky, answering the need for a private Neurosurgical practice. Here, he would make his home with his wife, Debbie—the most beautiful nurse he had ever seen. That home would eventually include the blessings of Ann, Teddy, Ellen and Emily. Now, 37 years later, they continue to be blessed with new additions, including 4 grandchildren.

As he concludes his active practice and retires this December, he looks forward to traveling and spending time with family, reading all those books that have been on his "to do list" for years, and hitting the greens every chance he gets. He will also be able to reflect upon his work as a physician and surgeon and know that he has upheld his Oath to others. He knows well, and has shared with countless others, that the answers to man's chief end is "to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever." I thank Dr. Davies; well done, Sir.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF RODNEY  
MAURICE GILBERT

**HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 14, 2017*

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Rodney Maurice Gilbert, a giant in New Jersey arts and social justice activism. For the past fifteen years, Mr. Gilbert led Yendor Productions, a Newark-based firm he founded in order to develop and produce arts education programming that elevates oppressed voices. He was a dedicated artist, educator, and community leader.

Mr. Gilbert devoted his life to helping underserved communities find their artistic voices. After graduating from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Mr. Gilbert spent three decades serving the arts community in New Jersey. He was an accomplished actor with credits on stages from Broadway to Little Rock. He was a gifted director known for shining artistic light on social issues such as mental illness. And he was an educator who inspired young artists to bring to life the untold stories of underserved communities.

Mr. Gilbert left a lasting impact on New Jersey. He helped heal Newark by paving the way for people to use arts and culture as vehicles for advancing social justice. Mr. Gilbert brought people together. He inspired young people. And he created a platform for people to creatively tell their own stories. In July, Mr. Gilbert directed *Down Neck*, a play written by Pia Wilson that explores the 1967 Newark Rebellion's impacts on the Ironbound neighborhood. His inspirational use of arts as a means to speak truth, preserve history, and pursue justice has left a permanent mark on the New Jersey arts scene.

Mr. Gilbert passed away on November 8, 2017, but his legacy will live on. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the life of Rodney Gilbert—artist, teacher, advocate, and friend.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF REVEREND MARY EDITH  
MOODY

**HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 14, 2017*

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Reverend Mary Edith Moody, a native of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, who passed away on October 28, 2017 at the age of 91.

Rev. Moody was born on July 29, 1926, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. She was one of nine siblings in a family of modest means. Her father, Mr. James Nathaniel Moody Sr., was a supervisor of Negro Schools in West Baton Rouge and her mother was a teacher. After graduating from high school at Southern University Lab School in 1943, she earned two degrees from Southern University: one in business education and the other in secondary education. She later earned a master's degree in education from Louisiana State University and a certificate of theology from the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, Georgia.

Rev. Moody taught English and business education to visually impaired children for more than 30 years at the Louisiana State School for the Blind at Southern University—and was one of five teachers named Outstanding Secondary Educator of America from a field of 5,000 candidates—before retiring from her teaching career to become one of the first female ministers for the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Rev. Moody was ordained in 1976 and assigned to Black Creek AME Church in Darlington that same day. During her pastoral career, she served as pastor at Mount Everett AME Church in St. Helena Parish and Heard AME Church in Baton Rouge and eventually became an associate pastor at Bethel AME Church on South Street.

Rev. Moody received numerous awards for service, commitment and leadership, including the Powell-Reznikoff Award from the Baton Rouge Council on Human Relations in 2001 along with the first Mid City Community Lifetime Achievement Medal in 2004 at the age of 77. Also, she was a proud member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., for more than 70 years.

Rev. Moody devoted herself to numerous Baton Rouge community organizations, advocating for children, African Americans, women, the poor, and anyone facing hardship. We cannot match the sacrifices made by Rev. Moody, but surely we can try to match her sense of service. We cannot match her courage, but we can strive to match her devotion.

Rev. Mary Edith Moody survivors include her sister, Ms. Martha E. Moody Boone; Brother, Mr. Charles David Moody, Sr.; and Sister-in-Law, Ms. Dorothy Johnson Moody; twenty-four Nieces and Nephew; a host of Grand-, Great-Grand-, and Great-Great-Great-Nieces and Nephew; and a host of surrogate sons and daughters.

Mr. Speaker, I celebrate the life and legacy of Reverend Mary Edith Moody a beloved daughter, sister, and grandmother as well as a true example of Baton Rouge culture personified.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JARED HUFFMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 14, 2017*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, November 13, 2017, I was unavoidably detained. As a result, I was absent for Roll Call votes 623 through 625.

Had I been present for Roll Call vote 623, on agreeing to H. Res. 599, I would have voted yes; on Roll Call vote 624, on suspension of the rules and passage of H.R. 3071, I would have voted yes; and on Roll Call vote 625, on approving the journal, I would have voted yes.

H.R. 3705, THE VETERANS FAIR  
DEBT NOTICE ACT OF 2017

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 14, 2017*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support H.R. 3705, the Veterans Fair

Debt Notice Act of 2017. H.R. 3705 modifies the ways that veterans are notified of any outstanding debts from a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) program.

This bill is essential because current VA debt notification letters can be confusing, highly technical, and fail to convey important dates and amounts. This legislation would direct the VA to clarify language in debt notification emails, coordinate email and postal mail notifications, and study the process of debt notification to ensure that messages are communicated effectively. The cost of sending postal mail notifications would also be evaluated in this study.

Congress should take measures to reduce veterans' debt by effectively communicating outstanding payments and due dates. Reducing debt is one of many ways we can ensure a smoother transition into civilian society for our veterans, which is why I support this legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. KEITH ELLISON**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 14, 2017*

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, due to other commitments, I missed the following Roll Call votes. Had I been present, on Roll Call no. 613, I would have voted yes; and on Roll Call no. 614, I would have voted no.

RECOGNIZING THE SMILEY  
FAMILY

**HON. JOHN J. FASO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 14, 2017*

Mr. FASO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the Smiley Family of Mohonk Mountain House for being named the recipients of the 2017 Legendary Family Historic Hoteliers of the Year by Historic Hotels of America and Historic Hotels Worldwide. This prestigious award acknowledges multigenerational, family-owned historic hotels that are exemplary in both their operation and preservation efforts. It is true testament to the Smiley Family's continued legacy of historical, environmental, and cultural stewardship.

Founded in 1869 by Albert Smiley, the Mohonk Mountain House—a picturesque Victorian castle resort surrounded by vast forests and wildlife—is still owned and operated by the Smiley Family. What makes the Mohonk Mountain House such a prized treasure in the 19th District, and an attraction for travelers worldwide, is the Smiley Family's dedication to conserving the historical integrity of their resort and the land surrounding it.

Using their timeless resort as a catalyst for historical, environmental, and cultural preservation, the Smiley Family has redefined the role of hoteliers and has established a higher standard of excellence. For example, in 1963, the Smiley Family founded the Mohonk Preserve, a nature preserve that safeguards more than 8,000 acres. In 1980, the Smiley Family also founded Mohonk Consultations, a non-profit think tank focused on environmental issues throughout the Hudson Valley.

On behalf of New York's 19th District, I want to congratulate and celebrate the Smiley Family on their much-deserved award. We are grateful for the Smiley Family's dedication to the values we in the 19th District hold dear: environmental conservancy and a profound appreciation for history and culture.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 14, 2017*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on November 13, 2017 I missed a series of Roll Call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "YEA" on Nos. 623 and 624. I would have voted "NAY" on No. 625.

CONGRATULATIONS TO RICHARD PETERS

**HON. BILLY LONG**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 14, 2017*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Richard Peters on his successful career in the U.S. Navy.

Richard Peters selfless service to the U.S. Navy has led to him being awarded a number of awards, such as the China Service Medal, the Korean Service Medal and the National Defense Medal, among other awards. Due to his distinguished career, Richard Peters has also been authorized the Republic of Korea War Service Medal and the United Nations Service Medal.

I am honored to have a man like Richard Peters in my district. I can't thank him enough for his service and sacrifice for our country.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Missouri's 7th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to congratulate Richard Peters on his distinguished Naval career. I wish him all of the best in his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 14, 2017*

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House Chamber for Roll Call votes 623, 624, and 625 on Monday, November 13, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call votes 623 and 624, and Nay on Roll Call vote 625.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF MS. ELAINE ROBERTS

**HON. STEVE STIVERS**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 14, 2017*

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the people of Ohio's 15th Congress-

sional District to celebrate the career of Ms. Elaine Roberts, as she retires from service as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Columbus Regional Airport Authority.

For over a decade, Ms. Roberts has served as the first-ever CEO of a combined aviation authority. She was named to the newly-created position in January of 2003, and has utilized her experience as an Accredited Airport Executive (A.A.E.), and the past Chair of the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE).

Ms. Roberts' leadership has guided the Authority during a period of expansive growth, including the merger of two airport authorities, more than one billion dollars in airport infrastructure development, and historic improvements at the John Glenn Columbus and the Rickenbacker International Airport facilities.

Ms. Roberts is a true coalition-builder. She successfully brought stakeholders across the federal, state, and local levels, along with the private sector, to develop the Rickenbacker Intermodal Facility. Her efforts to transform Rickenbacker into a leading center for trade led to her nomination and selection as a 2015 White House Champion of Change in Transportation.

Her contributions to the Central Ohio community and local economy are immeasurable. International and domestic freight operations—served by rail, highways, and international activation—helped to provide a livelihood for over 20,000 residents in the region.

Ms. Roberts will be missed by her colleagues and fellow aviation executives, but I join the Ohio delegation in wishing her all the best as she begins a new chapter in her life and pursues future endeavors. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ms. Elaine Roberts on her invaluable service to the residents of Ohio, and the aviation industry at large.

IN RECOGNITION OF MIKE COOK

**HON. MARK MEADOWS**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 14, 2017*

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Mike Cook of Caldwell County, North Carolina. On behalf of the people of Western North Carolina, I would like to thank Mr. Cook for over 40 years of service to our communities and congratulate him on his recent retirement.

Mike Cook began his career in the fire service as a volunteer in 1977 and eventually became a paid firefighter with the City of Lenoir in 1980. He began working with the Caldwell County Fire Marshal's Emergency Management Office in 1985, as a hazmat planner with North Carolina Emergency Management in 1988, and as Area Coordinator and eventually Branch Manager in 2006. All told, Mr. Cook has aided in thirty-two FEMA disaster declarations, including deploying to Mississippi during Hurricane Katrina and to Lumberton, North Carolina during Hurricane Matthew. Mr. Cook was instrumental in the development of the North Carolina All Hazards Incident Management Teams, and maintains credentials as an Incident Commander with the Western Branch All Hazards Incident Management Team. He is an Eagle Scout and longtime volunteer in his

community, serving on the Board of Directors of Patterson Fire Department since 1977 and currently serving as President of the Board.

Over the course of his career, Mike has been honored with the North Carolina Department of Public Safety Gold Circle Award and the Colonel William A. Thompson Award and Employee of the Year by the North Carolina Emergency Management Association. He received special recognition for work throughout the Democratic National Convention in 2012 from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and for response during Hurricane Floyd in 1999 from the North Carolina National Guard 139th Rear Tactical Operation Center.

Mike Cook has earned the respect and friendship of the people of Caldwell County through his hard work and wide-ranging involvement in his community. For his service to Western North Carolina, I am honored to express to Mr. Cook the gratitude and best wishes of the people of North Carolina on his retirement.

RECOGNIZING ALFRED RAYMOND COE

**HON. PATRICK MEEHAN**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 14, 2017*

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Alfred "Ray" Coe of Chester County, Pennsylvania, for his life dedicated to serving his community and our country. Mr. Coe honorably served the United States Army during Vietnam in three Calvary units in addition to serving his community of Kennett Square, Pennsylvania as a volunteer Scoutmaster with the Boy Scouts of America. Mr. Coe has also worked with his local government in various positions.

Mr. Coe received three promotions during his tour in Vietnam. He was injured when his vehicle was blown up by a mine, but courageously returned and rescued his Sergeant from the vehicle. For these and other efforts he earned numerous awards for his honorable service. Among the honors were the Purple Heart, Bronze Star, and Army Commendation for Valor, of which he is most proud. Upon returning home, Mr. Coe began volunteering with the Boy Scouts of America, eventually becoming Scoutmaster. Mr. Coe continued his service to his community through the Scouts working as his district's Unit, Training, and Roundtable Commissioner. Mr. Coe's years of service to his country and neighbors are invaluable. There is no doubt he has saved and improved the lives of many through that service.

I commend Mr. Alfred Coe for his passionate dedication to community and country. He has earned the respect of his friends, family, and colleagues, as well as the public he has served. I thank him for all he has done and continues to do.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN K. DELANEY**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 14, 2017*

Mr. DELANEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote on Roll Call No. 623, No. 624,

and No. 625. Had I been present, on Roll Call No. 623, I would have voted 'YEA'; on Roll Call No. 624, I would have voted 'YEA'; and on Roll Call No. 625, I would have voted 'NAY'.

RECOGNIZING THE LEADERSHIP  
AND ACTIVISM OF LESLIE DIANE  
HIATT

**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 14, 2017*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, as we observe American Education Week, I rise today to recognize Leslie Diane Hiatt, a remarkable teacher and social activist in my 40th Congressional District of California. As a teacher at Bell Gardens Elementary in the Montebello Unified School District, Ms. Hiatt has inspired her students to act on injustices in their community and in the world overall.

Born in Whittier, California, on December 10, 1960, to James and Jean Hiatt, Ms. Hiatt was raised in a loving family that encouraged activism and equality. From a young age, her commitment to social justice and service to her community was apparent. In high school, where she organized the first girls' track team, she often spent her lunch break at the local elementary school organizing intramural sports for the younger students. She also spent her free time writing letters to politicians about air pollution and the Vietnam War, trying to right the wrongs of the world. In 1979, Leslie graduated from Monte Vista High School in Whittier, and went on to attend the University of Southern California, from which she graduated in 1983.

Subsequently, Leslie started her teaching career at Bell Gardens Elementary School. In 1988, she pursued her Master of Arts at California State University, Fullerton. She also received a Math Authorization from Center X at the University of California, Los Angeles, in 2001.

Throughout her 34-year career as an educator, Ms. Hiatt has worked with immigrant and Latino communities. This has positioned her perfectly to help inspire students to believe they cannot be bystanders, and that in order to bring change in the world, they must use their voice to speak up about injustices. To encourage these conversations, she has her students write letters to government representatives and emphasizes the importance of persistence and collaboration. These experiences have empowered her students. Here are some of their particularly important efforts over the years.

In 1989, one of Ms. Hiatt's classes refused to have grapes from the school cafeteria after learning about the United Farm Workers movement and the dangers that grape workers faced as they were being exposed to pesticides. As a result of the ongoing struggle of grape workers, her students wrote letters to their school board, and after a lengthy debate, the district honored the grape boycott. The students' actions later received attention from labor leader Cesar Chavez.

In 2015, as her students learned about the history of immigration in California and the unconstitutional "Mexican Repatriation" deportations of the 1930s, her students were dismayed at the complete absence of information on the deportations in their history textbooks. They were also astounded to know that there has never been a federal apology for those 1930s deportations, which expelled over 1.2 million United States citizens and over two million Mexican nationals who were legally living in the United States. After drafting a letter to President Obama asking for a federal apology for the Mexican Repatriation of the 1930s, the students entered State Assemblywoman Cristina Garcia's "There Ought to Be a Law" contest. Their goal was to have California recognize the history of the Mexican Repatriation and include it in California history textbooks. As winners of the contest, Ms. Hiatt's students traveled to Sacramento to testify in support of the bill, and in the fall of 2015, Governor Brown signed the bill, AB 146, into law.

Later that same year, Ms. Hiatt's students wrote to me asking for my help in obtaining a federal apology for the unconstitutional deportations. In 2016 and 2017, I introduced H.R. 6314 and H.R. 1412, respectively, which would establish a committee to officially study the Mexican Repatriation and to recommend appropriate remedies.

To this day, Ms. Hiatt's students continue to speak up and take action on pressing world events. They have focused on such subjects as the Lakota Tribe in North Dakota, Hurricane Harvey, and the earthquake in Mexico City.

When Ms. Hiatt isn't teaching her classes and working with her students to implement new legislation, she also co-teaches the STEM Club at Bell Gardens Elementary, and helps organize the school's annual science fair. She is also currently taking science education classes at California State University, Long Beach, to learn more about science content and pedagogy, and she is a member of the university's Elementary Science Learning Academy program.

Ms. Hiatt has the infinite love and support of her husband, Francisco López, and her son, Joaquin López, whose encouragement in-

spires her to continue her work as a passionate educator.

Ms. Hiatt has shown exemplary dedication to children and families in my 40th Congressional District, and I am pleased to recognize her work as an educator and leader. I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing her tremendous activism, her commitment to social justice, and her determination to empower and develop a new generation of conscientious and compassionate activists.

HONORING GRANT R. WARD

**HON. ANDY BIGGS**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 14, 2017*

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, today I honor my constituent Grant R. Ward. Grant of Gilbert, Arizona. He has been chosen to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Water Resources Association (NWRA).

This lifetime achievement award was established in 1948. According to the NWRA, this award "recognizes members and individuals who have actively served in the leadership of the Association for many years and who, by their activities and service to the goals and objective of the Association, merit Life Member status." Grant embodies the spirit of this distinguished award.

Grant has an impressive resume of service. He graduated from Brigham Young University in 1967 and received his law degree in 1969 from the University of Idaho. From there, he commenced his professional career, serving as an assistant branch manager at the Valley National Bank. He then took a job as General Manager of the Roosevelt Water Conservation District serving there for over a decade. Following this position, he continued his distinguished career as Executive Vice President of the Agri-Business Council of Arizona, Assistant General Manager of the Central Arizona Water Conservation District, and General Manager of the Maricopa-Stanfield Irrigation & Drainage District. He currently is an independent water and power consultant.

Grant is married to Judy and their family includes seven children and 36 grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Grant has a remarkable track record of service to our community. He has provided a great example for his children of the value of hard work and giving back through his conservative efforts.

I applaud Grant for his award, and I look forward to his continued service.