

incredible work of Legal Services of New Jersey are truly deserving of this body's recognition.

Established in 1962, Legal Services of New Jersey (LSNJ) became the umbrella organization of the coordinated county legal services programs in 1963. Since then, LSNJ has provided a strong, unified administration of services across New Jersey and continues to be a leading voice and advocate for economically disadvantaged communities. Today, LSNJ serves clients in all twenty-one counties across New Jersey through its five regional programs, Legal Services of Northwest Jersey, Northeast New Jersey Legal Services, Essex-Newark Legal Services, Central Jersey Legal Services and South Jersey Legal Services. With twenty-three local offices throughout its network, LSNJ aims to be as accessible as possible. To date, over 2.4 million cases have been handled.

LSNJ affords low-income individuals resources, information and representation to pursue civil legal action. These services and aid help ensure that there is equal opportunity and protections for those who would otherwise be unable to secure a lawyer.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in congratulating Legal Services of New Jersey as it celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. The organization continues to provide essential legal assistance to New Jersey's neediest residents.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL FLORES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2017

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Speaker, I missed roll call vote 653 on the Motion to go to Conference on H.R. 1, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, taken on December 4, 2017. Had I been present for this vote, I would have voted YEA.

I was not present for this vote due to an emergency illness on Sunday and due to a previously scheduled commitment with a large group of constituents in Waco, Texas.

Pro-growth tax reform that provides a simpler, fairer tax code will lead to more jobs and bigger paychecks for hardworking American families.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE SCALISE

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2017

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 653.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. RUBEN BURKS, DEDICATED UAW LEADER AND LIFE-LONG COMMUNITY ACTIVIST

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2017

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the lifelong service Mr. Burks has

given to the United Automobile Workers and our community. He has upheld worker's rights by serving as the UAW Michigan CAP Chair and on UAW General Motors Sub Council 2. Additionally, his dedication to community activism has included service to the Special Olympics, Women's Council, March of Dimes, American Red Cross, and Easter Seals.

These accomplishments coupled with his dedication to our community are exemplary. As I continue representing Michigan's Fifth Congressional District, I stand by Mr. Burks' example of promoting unity by strengthening communities.

Mr. Burks is a testament to the power of one individual's ability to create meaningful, lasting change. As a conscientious and hardworking UAW leader, his love for the community and the laborers he served comprise a lasting legacy. After 62 years of membership at Local 598, Mr. Burks is bestowed the honor of the rededication of the 598 union hall as the "UAW Local 598 Ruben Burks Union Hall".

CELEBRATING THE 60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF WILLIAM AND MARILYN WILKINSON

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2017

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate William and Marilyn Wilkinson of South Bend, Indiana, on celebrating 60 years of marriage.

William and Marilyn met in college and married in 1957. Reaching this milestone speaks volumes about the love and compassion they share for one another and the family they built together.

For nearly five decades, the Wilkinsons have called northern Indiana home. Their life revolves around faith, love, and family, and over the years they have made lasting contributions to our Hoosier community. William and Marilyn have not only spent their lives giving back to those in need, they have remained active in ensuring future generations have a bright future in this country.

In 1987, this passion to help others drove William and his son Jay to create PeopleLink, a staffing company in Mishawaka. The success of this family business is a reflection of the strength of William and Marilyn's partnership and their determination to achieve the American Dream.

They have instilled in their two children, five grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren the ideals of courage, kindness, determination, and service. Today is a celebration not only of their love, but also of the incredible legacy they have created.

It is truly an honor to represent such kind-hearted, hardworking Hoosiers who inspire us all to live more meaningful lives and make a positive difference in the world around us.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of 2nd District Hoosiers, I wish to extend my heartfelt congratulations to William and Marilyn Wilkinson on their anniversary, and I join their family in celebrating the occasion.

PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2017

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the victims who were killed during the devastating attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941—a date which will live in infamy.

Seventy-six years ago today, more than 2,000 American citizens lost their lives and more than 1,000 others were injured in a surprise attack by the Imperial Japanese Navy.

The attack on Pearl Harbor shook our nation to its core. Up until this point, the United States had largely remained neutral during the Second World War. However, as a testament to our strength and our resolve, the United States declared war against the Japanese and entered World War II just one day following the attack. Contrary to what the Japanese had intended, the attack had only emboldened our nation to forge our own path to victory.

Tragedies such as the attack on Pearl Harbor serve as a stark reminder of the great personal sacrifices that our men and women in uniform must make in the service of protecting our nation. While many soldiers are fortunate enough to return from service, plenty of others have given up their lives in the act of duty. We are forever indebted to these men and women who have given their lives to protect our freedoms and way of life.

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day is also about paying tribute to those who served—and survived—during the attack. Petty Officer Doris "Dorie" Miller was one such American who fought bravely during the conflict. Petty Officer Miller displayed remarkable courage when his ship, the USS *West Virginia*, came under attack. As the fighting occurred, Miller dragged his ship's commander, who was mortally wounded by shrapnel, out of the line of fire to safety. He then manned a 50-caliber Browning anti-aircraft machine gun and shot down at least three of the 29 Japanese planes that went down that day until he was ordered to abandon ship. While Petty Officer Miller survived the attack on Pearl Harbor, he sadly lost his life during a second attack during the Battle of Makin Island when a Japanese submarine and aircraft attack sunk his ship.

Mr. Speaker, the attack on Pearl Harbor was a defining moment in United States history. Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day helps to remind us of the importance of defending our freedoms and the heavy cost of doing so. We are reminded on this day of those who lost their lives, but also the countless other veterans—such as Dorie Miller—who have made invaluable contributions to our success during the Second World War.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2017

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, December 4, 2017, I was absent from the House Chamber during Roll Call votes 653