

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT J.  
HARRIS'S LEADERSHIP

**HON. DAVID P. JOYCE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize a great leader of the U.S. fastener industry. He is one of the basic building blocks of virtually all manufacturing, Robert J. Harris, Managing Director of the Industrial Fasteners Institute (IFI) since 1995, retired from the Institute on December 31, 2017. Rob brought financial stability and strategic leadership to IFI, the trade organization that has represented the U.S. fastener manufacturing industry since 1931. Under his guidance, the Institute became the recognized authority in the development of all technical standards for fasteners, a critical component of ensuring capability and safety across all products.

Rob's leadership was perhaps most visible during the 1990s, when a pending regulatory burden imposed by the well-intentioned but fatally flawed Fastener Quality Act (FQA) threatened to shut down the industry and place severe limits on production of automakers, aerospace manufacturers, and a host of other U.S. and international producers. Working with a coalition of IFI members, as well as, representatives of the auto, aerospace, heavy equipment, appliance and other manufacturers, Rob developed and implemented a strategy to revamp the decades-old FQA. Congress approved the Fastener Quality Act Amendments Act in 1998, and it has been a great success in the twenty years since. Before joining IFI in 1995, Rob had already enjoyed a varied and successful career. A native of Kentucky, he graduated from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy and subsequently earned a master's degree in International Finance from the College of William and Mary and an MBA from DePaul University. He served in the U.S. Navy in Vietnam as a gunboat Captain.

Along with all of the residents of the 14th Congressional District of Ohio, I congratulate Rob on a well-deserved retirement.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BISHOP  
ALEXIS THOMAS

**HON. RUBEN GALLEGO**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and work of Bishop Alexis Thomas, who passed away on January 18, 2018.

Bishop Alexis Thomas was many things to many people. He was a pastor, a leader, and a friend. He was a father, a son and a brother. He was a dynamic and passionate leader not just at Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church, but throughout our community in Phoenix.

Having received his license to preach the gospel at the young age of seven, it is perhaps unsurprising that Bishop Thomas was destined for a life in service of God and his community. Before he was ordained as the Bishop of the State of Arizona in 2003, Bishop Thomas served for eighteen years as the Senior Pastor of Pilgrim Rest, which grew by leaps and bounds under his compassionate leadership.

Bishop Thomas' service extended well beyond Pilgrim West Baptist Church. Not only did he serve on the Board of Directors of the Greater Phoenix Black Chamber of Commerce, but he also founded the African American Christian Clergy Coalition in 2001 and co-founded the African American Strategic Alliance Coalition in Phoenix.

I want to take this opportunity not only to remember and celebrate Bishop Thomas' many accomplishments, but also to share my sincere condolences with Bishop Thomas' family and friends, as well as with the broader Phoenix community mourning his loss.

I was fortunate enough to work alongside Bishop Thomas on issues of social justice. We served together as a part of My Brother's Keeper, and I witnessed firsthand his boundless determination to make our community—and our world—a better place. Bishop Thomas will be recalled fondly by many as a counselor, friend and mentor. He will also be remembered as a man with a sincere and remarkable vision for change. Through our work together in support of the Congressional Black Caucus, I feel incredibly fortunate that I was able to witness Bishop Thomas' inspiring leadership firsthand.

Bishop Thomas worked miracles large and small every day. He touched more lives than perhaps we will ever know.

Mr. Speaker, while we are devastated by his loss, we know that Bishop Thomas' legacy of service and love will live on forever in our community.

IN HONOR OF LEAH COSNER'S  
100TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

**HON. LIZ CHENEY**

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to Leah Cosner on the celebration of her 100th birthday.

I join her friends and family in extending my best to her on this occasion and in celebrating her life and contributions to our great state. I hope she uses this momentous day to do the same.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my congratulations to Leah Cosner on her birthday. May her year be filled with happiness and blessings.

HONORING LASA JOINER

**HON. DAVID SCOTT**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary Georgian and a great American, Lasa Joiner.

Lasa has been involved in Georgia legislative issues for over thirty years, and is well known throughout the State of Georgia and around the country for her interest and expertise in mental health issues.

Lasa Joiner first began serving as an advocate for and advisor to the Georgia Psychiatric Physicians Association during the 1988 Session of the Georgia General Assembly and became their Executive Director in 2003. So respected for her leadership, the Georgia Psychiatric Physicians Association awarded her with the 2008 Dancing Elephant Award for excellence in administrative leadership.

Lasa was the first woman to Chair the Board of the Georgia Department of Human Resources, the largest department in state government. She also chaired the Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Committee and the Rehabilitation Services Committee.

Lasa Joiner's years of outstanding advocacy for psychiatric professionals and their patients and her tireless efforts to improve access to quality mental health care in Georgia, have undeniably made our state a better place for all of its residents.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Lasa Joiner on her retirement, and extend my sincerest wishes for her continued health and happiness.

God bless Lasa Joiner.

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HANOVER PARK, ILLINOIS

**HON. PETER J. ROSKAM**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the incorporation of Hanover Park, Illinois.

Hanover Park is a model for other cities and towns to follow through its continued dedication to building a friendly and welcoming community for residents and visitors alike. Located just 17 miles from O'Hare International Airport and 45 minutes from downtown Chicago, Hanover Park has thriving business parks, a growing retail community, and easy access to global markets.

In the years since its first permanent settlers in 1874 and its incorporation in 1958, Hanover Park has become a center of culture and commerce. As a home to 80 nationalities and 30 spoken languages, it is a diverse village. Hanover Park is a great place to work, live, and

• 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.

raise a family. The Village's police and fire departments are consistently recognized as two of the finest in the state and the local government is highly engaged and enthusiastic. The residents, families, businesses, professionals, churches and organizations have made Hanover Park a vibrant and thriving community.

On the occasion of this 60th anniversary, we join together to celebrate Hanover Park's legacy of growth and prosperity and look ahead to the opportunities facing this great village and our nation. Today both marks 60 years of working together to build a brighter future and reminds us that our work continues.

Mr. Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in recognizing the 60th anniversary of the incorporation of Hanover Park, Illinois, and wishing its residents great success in the years ahead.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House Chamber for Roll Call votes 45 and 46 on Monday, January 29, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call votes 45 and 46.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MARK POCAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 29, 2018 a flight delay prevented me from participating in the 6:30 p.m. vote series. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 45, and YEA on Roll Call No. 46.

#### RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF FIRST LIEUTENANT CLAY CULLEN

### HON. LARRY BUCSHON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of First Lieutenant Clay Cullen. On the weekend of January 20, 2018, Lieutenant Cullen was killed in a training accident while serving in the 4th Combat Aviation Brigade, 4th Infantry Division at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California. He was an American hero and our thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends.

Lieutenant Cullen was 25 years old and the son of Robert and Julie Cullen of Bicknell, which is located in Knox County, Indiana. He was an enigmatic young man that left a wave of positive impressions on the people he touched. He attended North Knox Junior/Senior High School where he excelled both in the classroom and on the field. He was named most valuable player of the soccer team while also being an active member of the National Honor Society and the student council.

After graduating from high school, Lieutenant Cullen enrolled and attended Vincennes University before moving on to attend Indiana University where he served in the National Guard. Upon graduation from IU in 2015, he became a commissioned officer on active duty.

During his years of service, Lieutenant Cullen received several awards including the Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and the Army Service Ribbon.

Mr. Speaker, Lieutenant Cullen served his country to his fullest ability and his service will never be forgotten. Please join me today in commemorating the life of First Lieutenant Clay Cullen for his service to our nation.

#### PANAYIOTA VURNAKES VALLAS

### HON. GEORGE HOLDING

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Mrs. Pota Vurnakes Vallas.

Mrs. Vallas grew up in Krissafa, Greece, a small village near Sparta, where she was born in 1908. Her father, Gus Vurnakes, immigrated to the United States in 1924 and brought Pota, who was the eldest of the ten Vurnakes' children, with him.

It was at that time, Mr. Speaker, that Pota's father put her to work assisting him at the California Fruit Store on Fayetteville Street in Raleigh, North Carolina where she made homemade ice cream and chocolates.

By 1927, just before the Great Depression Pota married her husband, the late George Theodore Vallas, himself a fellow immigrant. Mr. Speaker, like many families at the time, the Vallas' and Vurnakes' were overwhelmed by the Depression. Pota's family lost their home, their life savings, and the California Fruit Store during that time. But they never lost their will to striving for a better life.

And in 1944, Pota and George travelled to Chicago and where they were able to purchase the distributorship of the National Sewing Machine Company. Their business grew into National Art Interiors—a landmark in Raleigh—supplying furnishings for both homes and businesses.

Mr. Speaker, Pota served on the North Carolina Community Foundation, the First Citizens Bank Board and was a life-long member of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church. She was presented with the Saint Michael's Award for her years of dedicated service by the Greek Orthodox Diocese of America.

Sadly, Mr. Speaker, Pota Vallas passed away December 12, 2017 at the age of 109.

She was a loving wife, and mother, as well as a pioneering entrepreneur and businesswoman in North Carolina and she will be missed.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. RON ESTES

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. ESTES of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for Roll Call vote No. 45, a re-

corded vote on a motion to suspend the rules and pass S. 534. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea.

#### CELEBRATING THE 50TH RUNNING OF THE SAULT SAINTE MARIE INTERNATIONAL-500 ENDURANCE SNOWMOBILE RACE

### HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it's my honor to recognize the Sault Sainte Marie I-500 Endurance Snowmobile Race as it celebrates its 50th annual competition. We Michiganders are proud of the I-500's half-century of world-class racing and commitment to the people of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

The first official running of the arduous 500-mile snowmobile race took place on February 8, 1969. The 100% volunteer-run event initially hosted 47 racers on the 1-mile oval ice track—the only such track in North America. Since then, the I-500 has become respected as the most prestigious and grueling snowmobile race in the world. Hundreds of racers vie for the winner's purse while snowmobile manufacturers from around the world look to showcase their machines' reliability and durability. Every year, thousands of visitors come to Sault Sainte Marie to watch the race and enjoy the festivities.

The week-long celebration includes days of qualifying laps, open ice skating on the track, vintage snowmobile exhibitions, youth snowmobile races, food truck competitions, the Winter Pub Crawl, and the Miss I-500 Pageant—all leading up to the day of the race. This year, to help celebrate the 50th anniversary, there will also be an attempt to break the world record for the largest snowmobile parade. Through its week of competition, community, and camaraderie, the impact of the I-500 on the people of the Upper Peninsula and Northern Michigan cannot be overstated.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Sault Sainte Marie I-500 Endurance Snowmobile Race for 50 years of exciting competition and community engagement. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing that the First District is home to such a prestigious and dynamic event. On behalf of my constituents, I wish the Soo I-500 all the best in its future endeavors, and best of luck to the racers.

#### REPRESENTATIVE FRELINGHUYSEN RETIREMENT STATEMENT

### HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, today as I announce my retirement at the end of this session of Congress, I want to use the opportunity to strongly encourage the many young people I meet to consider public service. Public service is an incredible way to turn your convictions into something that serves the greater good and to do it alongside people

from every walk of life and background. That has certainly been my experience here in this House, and during my Army service in Vietnam. I thank my friends and colleagues with whom I have served. My years in public service have allowed me to represent my home county of Morris for over 40 years, and also Essex, Passaic, Sussex Counties, and earlier on, Somerset. That would not have been possible without the love and support of my wife, Virginia, our two girls and my late father and mentor, Peter. The unsung heroes of my time in Congress are my staff, both in Morristown and Washington, who tend every day to the needs of 730,000 constituents.

During my time serving here there have been times of great tragedy including the terrorist attacks of 9/11 and the ravages of Hurricane Sandy on my home state. In my role on the House Appropriations Committee, I made sure that New Jersey's needs were met in both the immediate aftermath as well as over time in the wake of these events. I have proudly been able to secure key federal investments for New Jersey to strengthen our economy, our institutions of higher education, our hospitals and public transportation systems, to preserve open space and protect the environment and to better serve our veterans and our fellow citizens with mental illness and disabilities.

As Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, this past year I have had a singular focus on "getting our work done". We completed 12 appropriations bills left over from 2017, we passed all 2018 bills in record time through regular order, and three Disaster Supplementals historic in scope and the expediency with which we acted to help our fellow citizens. In my remaining year as chairman, I am determined to finish the FY18 bills and pass our FY19 bills through regular order. Every member, Republican and Democrat, will continue to have ample opportunity to directly impact the Congressional power of the purse and decide the best and highest use of limited taxpayer money. This will require—and I will happily devote—all my energies to this task.

Throughout my service in this House, my deepest devotion has been to supporting our Armed Forces, all volunteers, and their families, here and abroad, and those warfighters who have returned home with injuries and who depend on a functioning veterans' health care system. To those of you I have met while you served us overseas and to those of you that I have sat by your bedside, I hope and trust I have served you well.

I have worked in a bipartisan manner, not just in times of crisis but always, because I believe it best serves my constituents, my state and our country. My father reminded me often that we are temporary stewards of the public trust. I have sincerely endeavored to earn that trust every day and I thank my constituents and my home state of New Jersey for the honor to serve and I will continue to do so to the best of my abilities through the end of my term.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, on January 29, I was unable to vote on Roll Call votes 45 and

46. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Roll Call 45—Yes, and Roll Call 46—Yes.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. RUBEN GALLEGO**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained in my congressional district and was not present for two roll call votes on Monday, January 29, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: Roll Call Vote No. 45—S. 534, Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017, as amended—YES; and Roll Call Vote No. 46—H.R. 1457, To establish requirements for use of a driver's license or personal identification card by certain financial institutions for opening an account or obtaining a financial product or service, and for other purposes, as amended—YES.

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TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF JAZZ TRUMPETER HUGH MASEKELA

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note the passing of South African jazz trumpeter, composer and anti-apartheid activist Hugh Masekela, who died January 23 after a long fight with prostate cancer. Mr. Masekela, 78, was honored in October at the 26th annual National Civil Rights Museum Freedom Awards in Memphis although he was too sick to make the trip from Johannesburg and the award was accepted by his son, Salema Masekela, in his place.

Masekela was an integral part of the African jazz scene in the 1950s and '60s with his band the Jazz Epistles. In response to South Africa's oppressive apartheid, which prevented large gatherings of black people from legally attending his bands' concerts, he went into exile in 1964, at the age of 21, first in Britain and then in the United States. In 1968, he had an international No. 1 hit—"Grazing in the Grass." He was also known for "Bring Him Back Home," an anthem calling for the release of the future South African President Nelson Mandela, imprisoned for 27 years for his anti-apartheid activities, and "Soweto Blues."

Masekela collaborated with a variety of activists and entertainers including Harry Belafonte, Jimi Hendrix, Otis Redding, Janis Joplin and Paul Simon, with whom he toured on the "Graceland" album concerts with Ladysmith Black Mambazo. He released more than 40 albums in his career and toured internationally until last year.

"My biggest obsession is to show Africans and the world who the people of Africa really are," he said on his official website.

In 2012, he participated in UNESCO's International Jazz Day at the United Nations General Assembly Hall in New York City with Richard Bona of Cameroon, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Danilo Perez, Derek Trucks and Susan

Tedeschi, Jack DeJohnette, Herbie Hancock, Jimmy Heath, Zakir Hussain of India, Angelique Kidjo of Benin, Lang Lang of China, Romero Lubambo of Brazil, Shankar Mahadevan of India, Wynton Marsalis, Christian McBride, Dianne Reeves, Wayne Shorter, Esperanza Spalding, Hiromi Uehara of Japan.

Masekela returned to South Africa in 1990 when Mandela was freed and has been a vocal voice for freedom. I join fans and activists around the world in paying tribute to a giant of African culture and the arts.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, had I been present for the vote today on S. 534, Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act (Roll Call No. 45), I would have voted aye. This bill would require authorization to interact with minor amateur athletes to report any suspected incidents of child abuse, including sexual abuse, to the sport's governing body.

Additionally, had I been present for the vote on H.R. 1457 (Roll Call No. 682), I would have voted aye. This bill would allow banks and other financial institutions nationwide to use an individual's state-issued driver's license or personal identification card to verify the individual's identity when using a mobile device to initiate mobile banking or other online service.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DAVID G. REICHERT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, due to a personal commitment, I was unable to vote on the following: Roll Call No. 35 and Roll Call No. 36. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

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RECOGNIZING RONN OWENS ON HIS DISTINGUISHED CAREER

**HON. ERIC SWALWELL**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, Democratic Leader NANCY PELOSI as well as Representatives MARK DESAULNIER, ANNA ESHOO, JOHN GARAMENDI, JARED HUFFMAN, RO KHANNA, BARBARA LEE, ZOE LOFGREN, JERRY MCNERNEY, JACKIE SPEIER, MIKE THOMPSON, and I rise to recognize Ronn Owens for his lifetime of service to the San Francisco Bay Area as a radio journalist of the highest caliber.

Ronn, a resident of San Francisco, launched his daily radio talk show on KGO 810 in 1975. He has covered everything from politics to pop culture, and his show has been called the "ultimate town hall meeting." He became known as a voice of reason, balancing

issues so that listeners can make up their own minds. In an era of divisiveness and shock radio, Ronn gave listeners a space in which both sides could be heard and have productive discussions.

His thousands of guests have included Presidents Barack Obama and Jimmy Carter, Senators DIANNE FEINSTEIN and Barbara Boxer, Gov. Jerry Brown, Democratic Leader NANCY PELOSI, Steve Martin, John Oliver, Neil deGrasse Tyson, Martin Short, Sam Donaldson, Bill Maher, Condoleezza Rice, Madeleine Albright, Benjamin Netanyahu, JOHN MCCAIN, Joe Montana, Tony Bennett and Willie Mays.

Ronn has won numerous awards over the years and was inducted into the Bay Area Radio Hall of Fame in December 2007 and the National Radio Hall of Fame in Chicago in 2015. The National Association of Broadcasters presented him with the prestigious Marconi Award for Major Market Personality of the Year Award in 2003 and again in 2010.

Talkers Magazine named Ronn one of the Top 25 Greatest Radio Talk Show Hosts of All Time, ranking him 13th and the top local personality in the country. His book, "Voice of Reason: Why the Left and Right are Wrong," was published in 2004.

By bringing newsmakers into his studio in a friendly but probing way, Ronn Owens has vastly enriched the Bay Area's knowledge and culture for more than four decades. His incisive analysis has helped generations of Californians and online listeners around the globe better understand and enjoy the world around them.

It was my great honor to be the guest during his last full show on Friday, January 12. He will continue on the air with a 10-minute "Ronn Owens Report" each weekday.

We congratulate Ronn on his fine work and many accomplishments, and we wish him the very best with his newest endeavor.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the House Chamber on Monday, January 29, 2018, recovering from a medical procedure. Had I recorded my vote, I would have voted:

"Yea" on roll call no. 45, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, S. 534, the Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act;

"Yea" on roll call no. 46, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, H.R. 1457, to establish requirements for use of a drivers license or personal identification card by certain financial institutions for opening an account or obtaining a financial product or service, and for other purposes.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, due to a personal conflict, I was unable to make votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call No. 38; Pres on Roll Call No. 39; Yea on Roll Call No. 40; Yea on Roll Call No. 41; and Yea on Roll Call No. 42.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. LYNN JENKINS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I was absent for Roll Call votes on No. 45 and 46 the evening of January 29, 2018. I would have voted in favor of S. 534, sponsored by Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN; I would have voted in favor for H.R. 1457, sponsored by Representative TIPTON.

#### CELEBRATING EDWIN AND SANDRA HAMILTON'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. BARRY LOUDERMILK

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. LOUDERMILK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 50th wedding anniversary of Mr. Edwin Richard Hamilton and Mrs. Sandra Elaine (Thompson) Hamilton.

Edwin and Sandra were married on February 3, 1968 in Cartersville, Georgia by the Reverend Charles McPherson.

Reaching the wonderful milestone of a golden anniversary shows such a great commitment to your spouse and family. This marriage stands as a blessing and an encouragement to me and all those who know this couple.

Please join me in wishing Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton a very happy and blessed anniversary. May God bless them with many more years of happiness and health.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF JOAN GILLAM MANDA

### HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Joan Gillam Manda, who passed away on January 20, 2018.

Joan Gillam Manda was born on October 19, 1923, in Maryville, Missouri, where she was active in church and school during her youth. A proud Tiger, Joan graduated from the University of Missouri—Columbia with a degree in Journalism in 1945. Joan was a devoted wife to her husband, Ed Manda, whom she married in 1947. Joan and Ed moved to Pleasant Hill, Missouri, where they raised their four children. She enjoyed staying involved with her children's lives and was very supportive of their many activities growing up.

As an active member of the First Presbyterian Church, Joan was devoted to her faith and to her community, where she spent much of her time volunteering. She also proudly competed as a co-pilot for several years in the All Women's Transcontinental Air

Race, where she and her pilot once won the competition.

Joan truly knew how to live her life to the fullest. She was well known for her pursuit of adventure and traveled world-wide throughout her life. In recent years, she enjoyed listening to her grandchildren's stories of their own adventures across the globe. A proud grandmother of 11 and great-grandmother of 15, Joan took delight in keeping up with her many family members through social media.

I would like to offer my deepest condolences to Joan's family and friends, by whom she will be greatly missed. Joan's commitment to her family, her faith, and her community will be forever cherished in the hearts of the many people she touched throughout her life.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast votes on the following legislative measures due to family medical reasons. If I were present for roll call votes, I would have voted No for the following votes: Roll 35, January 19, 2018: On Motion to Table, H. Res. 705, Impeaching Donald John Trump, President of the United States, of high misdemeanors; Roll 36, January 19, 2018: On Passage, H.R. 4712, Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act; Roll 37, January 19, 2018: On Motion to Adjourn; Roll 38, January 20, 2018: On Ordering a Call of the House; Roll 40, January 20, 2018: On Tabling Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair, H. Res. 708, Waiving a Requirement of Clause 6(A) of Rule XIII with Respect to Consideration of Certain Resolutions Reported from the Committee on Rules, and Providing for Consideration of Motions to Suspend the Rules; Roll 41, January 20, 2018: On Ordering the Previous Question, H. Res. 708, Waiving a Requirement of Clause 6(A) of Rule XIII with Respect to Consideration of Certain Resolutions Reported from the Committee on Rules, and Providing for Consideration of Motions to Suspend the Rules; and Roll 42, January 20, 2018: on Agreeing to the Resolution, H. Res. 708, Waiving a Requirement of Clause 6(A) of Rule XIII with Respect to Consideration of Certain Resolutions Reported from the Committee on Rules, and Providing for Consideration of Motions to Suspend the Rules.

I would have voted Present for the following vote: Roll 39, January 20, 2018: On Call of the House.

I would have voted Aye for the following vote: Roll 43, January 20, 2018: On Motion to Fix the Convening Time.

#### HONORING PASTOR DR. WAYNE COFIELD AND WHITFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH

### HON. TOM GRAVES

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. GRAVES of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Dr. Wayne

Cofield who is celebrating 40 years as pastor of Whitfield Baptist Church.

Pastor Cofield grew up in Decatur, Georgia, and attended Georgia State University, graduating with a degree in Business Administration.

He was later ordained to preach at Wesley Hills Baptist Church in Decatur, where he was an active member for 22 years.

Then after serving for several years at Gospel Baptist Temple in Claxton, Georgia, he moved with his wife Connie and their four children to Dalton in 1978 to establish Whitfield Baptist Church.

Pastor Cofield's first service at Whitfield Baptist Church was held on February 4, 1978, with 42 attending the service and 29 children attending the Sunday school.

A few short months later, Whitfield Baptist had more than 200 people attending morning service and more than 170 attending Sunday school.

Since that time, under Pastor Cofield's steady leadership, Whitfield Baptist continues to grow and thrive.

I am proud today to recognize Pastor Cofield's service and contributions to our community and state.

I want to close by saying thank you to Wayne for his dedication and commitment to service.

IN HONOR OF THE CLAREMONT,  
NEW HAMPSHIRE AD HOC AM-  
TRAK PLATFORM COMMITTEE  
MEMBERS

### HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the members of the Claremont, New Hampshire, Ad Hoc Amtrak Platform Committee. The people of the Upper Valley owe a tremendous debt to the public servants and civic-minded citizens who took up the important work of this committee. Those individuals are: Jeffrey Albright, State Representative Raymond Gagnon, Mayor Charlene Lovett, Scott Magnuson, former City Councilor James Reed, Walter Stapleton, and former City Councilor Carolyn Towle. Since its formation in 2014, the committee has worked extensively to promote and improve rail transportation and access in the region. Through new signage around Claremont and effective digital marketing, the committee did an outstanding job of raising awareness of the value and opportunity the Amtrak Vermonter line had for the Claremont community, and vice versa. They spearheaded a campaign to construct a passenger shelter at the Claremont station with all-volunteer funding and labor. As a direct result of their efforts, ridership numbers have notably increased each of the last three years, and the New England Intercity Rail Initiative has decided that Claremont should remain included in future high speed rail service.

It is also important to recognize the national and international impact of the committee. Its members worked closely with my office to provide input and help advance the Promoting Travel, Commerce, and National Security Act, which I introduced in 2016. This legislation

paved the way for a bilateral border security agreement that allows the United States and Canada to expand preclearance customs facilities, including rail facilities for the first time. It improves travel and trade opportunities for our northern border communities while also strengthening our national security. The bill was signed into law by President Barack Obama, and in 2017 the agreement was approved by the Canadian House of Commons. I commend the committee members for all they have done to help bring this meaningful policy to fruition.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's Second Congressional District, I thank Jeffrey, Richard, Charlene, Scott, James, Walter, and Carolyn for their dedicated service and advocacy. Their achievements will continue to benefit Granite State transportation, tourism, and economic development for years to come. I am honored to recognize and congratulate them.

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS AT  
TEMPLE BETH ISRAEL

### HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate an important and longstanding part of the fabric of the 9th Congressional District of Illinois: Temple Beth Israel in suburban Skokie, north of Chicago. January 31, 2018 marks 100 years since the Temple's incorporation in the State of Illinois, and it is considered its official birthday.

Temple Beth Israel was the first Reform congregation in the Albany Park neighborhood of Chicago; and while its location may have changed over the last century, it has remained a stable presence in the lives of its congregants. For 100 years, Temple Beth Israel has allowed individuals and families to come together and express their Judaism—providing comfort in dire times, a place to celebrate in happier times, and an opportunity to reflect and pray.

This congregation has seen success because of the diligent work of its rabbis and staff over the years. Three different rabbis have spent more than 30 years apiece at this congregation, and each has left their mark on this institution.

Rabbi Michael A. Weinberg has served as the Temple's beloved rabbi since 1987 and is a past president of the Chicago Association of Reform Rabbis, in addition to serving in other roles of distinction. Rabbi Weinberg was preceded by Rabbi Ernest M. Lorge, who served from 1947 through 1984. Rabbi Lorge worked hard to expand the congregation, was very involved in the issues of the day, and met with President John F. Kennedy at the White House to discuss civil rights issues. Rabbi Felix S. Mendelsohn served as the first full time Rabbi for Temple Beth Israel. He began his service in 1919 and is credited with founding both the Temple Center, a Jewish social center for young adults, and National Jewish Book Week—today known as Jewish Book Month.

Today, the Temple Beth Israel congregation numbers approximately 400 families, and remains a vibrant part of the 9th Congressional

District's diverse community. I offer my sincere congratulations to Rabbi Weinberg, the congregation's past and present staff and the many congregants who are celebrating this important milestone. I wish them all the best in the years ahead and hope for another century of good work ahead for Temple Beth Israel.

HONORING MARVIN HILL OF  
DIERKS, ARKANSAS

### HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to recognize a true American hero. Marvin Hill of Dierks, Arkansas, is a 103-year-old veteran of World War II. On Tuesday, January 30, the Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System will recognize Mr. Hill with a commemorative coin in honor of his service and sacrifice on behalf of the United States.

I ask the people of Arkansas to join the VA and myself in honoring Mr. Hill and thanking him for fighting in defense of freedom.

CHINA IMPOSES COMMUNIST CONTROL OVER LARUNG GAR MONASTERY IN TIBET

### HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my outrage about the action by the Chinese authorities to impose Communist Party control over Larung Gar, the Tibetan Monastery and learning center of Tibetan Buddhism.

According to information published by Human Rights Watch on January 24, 2018, some 200 Communist Party cadres and lay officials are taking over all management, finances, security, admissions, and even the choice of textbooks at the Larung Gar center, following demolitions and expulsions carried out last year.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues the information released by Human Rights Watch. It is a significant blow to freedom of religion in Tibet and China, and a matter of great concern to all members of Congress.

[Human Rights Watch, Jan. 24, 2018]

CHINA: NEW CONTROLS ON TIBETAN MONASTERY

NEW YORK—The Chinese authorities have imposed new administrative controls on the Tibetan Buddhist monastic center of Larung Gar that infringe upon freedom of religion, Human Rights Watch said today.

According to an official document obtained by Human Rights Watch, some 200 Communist Party cadres and lay officials are taking over all management, finances, security, admissions, and even the choice of textbooks at the center, following demolitions and expulsions in 2017.

"The new government controls over Larung Gar fly in the face of Party claims that China respects constitutionally protected religious beliefs," said Sophie Richardson, China director at Human Rights Watch. "The micromanagement of the Tibetan monastery encroaches on religious

freedom and is likely to fuel resentment against Beijing.”

The brochure emphasizes increased security and heightened control of the monks and nuns, calling for rigid limits on the numbers allowed to stay there, and for ongoing surveillance of the monastery population through the establishment of a “grid management” system throughout the settlement. It also states that all residents and visitors will be subjected to “real-name registration,” with monks required to have red tags or labels (Tibetan: byang bu), while nuns will have yellow labels, and lay devotees will have green ones.

Larung Gar was the largest center of Buddhist monasticism in Tibet, if not the world, until an eight-month program of expulsions and demolitions, which ended in April 2017 after reducing the number of residents to around 5,000. It had previously been run by Tibetan monks and nuns selected by senior members of the monastery. The government’s takeover of the administration—described in the official document as “standardization”—could have far more significant impact than the demolitions and expulsions. The actions led a group of experts from the United Nations in November 2016 to ask the Chinese government to provide information about the legal grounds for the expulsions.

The new document is an undated, four-page brochure printed in color in Chinese and Tibetan and apparently intended for public distribution. It ends with a quotation from Liu Chengming, Party secretary of Kandze prefecture, a supposedly autonomous area of Sichuan province that includes Larung Gar. The document appears to have been issued either by his office or by officials running Larung Gar.

The document, made available in or shortly before August 2017, calls for the monastic settlement (Tibetan: gar) to be divided into two sections with a wall between them, with one section designated as an “institute” or academy with a maximum of 1,500 residents, who would be mainly monks, and one as a monastery with a maximum of 3,500 residents, mainly nuns.

The original order for the demolitions, which Human Rights Watch obtained and published in June 2016, indicated that in the future three-fifths of the members of the main management committee at Larung Gar would be lay officials instead of monks. That plan was put into practice last August when local authorities announced the names of six top lay officials who had been given positions within Larung Gar’s two main management committees. All of them, including the deputy police chief of Kandze prefecture, are Communist Party cadres and are therefore required to be atheists.

The new document shows that scores of other cadres are to be installed not just in the management committee, but at every level and in each section of the monastic settlement. They will hold nearly half of the positions on most committees and in most offices, and in most cases will occupy the top positions. The prefectural deputy police chief will be party secretary and principal at the Larung Gar Institute, three of his seven deputy principals will be cadres, and the six “sub-area management units” (Chinese: guanli zu) that supervise the monks at the institute will each be headed by a cadre rather than a monk.

According to the brochure, new committees will also be set up to handle propaganda, “internal security,” finances, education, and students within the institute. Half of the people running these committees will be cadres, 97 of whom will be stationed in the institute. Monastery sources have confirmed to Human Rights Watch that at least the same number will be stationed within the other

section of the settlement, which is now officially designated as the “monastery.” These sources said that a large building has already been constructed to house the cadres.

“The administrative takeover of Larung Gar by Party officials shows that the government’s aim was not merely to reduce numbers at the settlement,” Richardson said. “Chinese authorities are also imposing pervasive control and surveillance over every level of activity within religious communities.”

According to the brochure, 40 percent of teaching at Larung Gar Buddhist Institute must now consist of classes in politics and other non-religious subjects. The primary criterion for accepting students will be whether they “have a firm political stand, accepting the Great Motherland, the Chinese [Chinese: Zhonghua] people, Chinese culture, the Chinese Communist Party and socialism with Chinese characteristics.” The objectives of study will include to “honor and support the Chinese Communist Party and the socialist system” and to train monks who “defend the unification of the Motherland, uphold nationality unity and patriotic religion and abide by their vows.”

Only residents of Sichuan province will be allowed to apply, other than in exceptional cases, eliminating monks and nuns from other Tibetan areas—which had been a distinguishing mark of Larung Gar. Since 2008, Chinese authorities have imposed similar limits on other major Tibetan monasteries, banning them from accepting monks and nuns from outside the local area. The document also indicates that steps will be taken to stop those who have been expelled from returning to the settlement.

The scale of the Communist Party’s intervention at Larung Gar is unprecedented, Human Rights Watch said. Since October 2011 permanent teams of cadres have been stationed in all monasteries in the Tibet Autonomous Region, the central Tibetan area far to the west of Larung Gar, where they have taken over the management committee of each monastery. There have been reports of similar takeovers of some monasteries in eastern Tibetan areas. But none are known to have consisted of such large teams of cadres, or to have included cadres even at the lowest levels of monastery management.

The changes at Larung Gar are in line with current religion policy, which emphasizes ensuring political stability in monasteries by intensifying official management. It also rewards political compliance by monks and nuns with public praise, titles such as “model patriotic monk,” and other material or social benefits. The document aims to make the study of Buddhism “standardized, law-abiding and modern,” a reference to a new, centralized system for managing religious training, textbooks, and curricular content maintained mainly through a network of higher studies institutes being constructed throughout China to retrain Buddhist monks.

The scheme appears designed to micro-manage religious institutions rather than close them down and to produce a new generation of Buddhist teachers trained equally in religious doctrine and state ideology in order to “adapt Tibetan Buddhism to socialist society.”

“The Chinese government’s latest inroads at Larung Gar show a pernicious intent to exercise extreme control over religious practice,” Richardson said. “This is an immediate threat to the religious freedom of all Tibetans, but a long-term threat to all Chinese.”

HONORING COLLEEN C. DiPIRRO ON HER RETIREMENT AS AMHERST CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESIDENT AND CEO

## HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colleen C. DiPirro, a visionary pioneer who began her career 35 years ago as a single staff person and is now retiring as the President and CEO of the Amherst Chamber of Commerce having overseen the explosive growth of membership from less than 200 members to more than 3,000, representing more than 1,300 businesses.

She grew its annual budget from \$24,000 when she started to more than \$1.9 million with a full-time professional staff offering 50 plus annual events, business services, advocacy, economic development strategies and an Emerging Business Leaders forum.

Colleen’s career is filled with firsts. She was the first President of the WNY Chamber Alliance, an organization for Chamber Executives spanning an eight county region; the first woman honored as the Executive of the Year by the Buffalo Sales and Marketing Executives, and in 2009, the first woman named the Buffalo Bills Citizen of the Year, the second recipient behind Ralph Wilson.

Colleen is a builder. Her tools were not brick and mortar, but a consummate ability to build a business advocacy organization with teamwork, tenacity, compromise and consensus and at times, leading with only the courage of her convictions. Recognized for her hard work, heart, humanity and humor, she was identified as one of the top 100 most influential people in Western New York by Business First several times. In 2016, she was listed in the Top Ten Most Influential Women and named Citizen of the Year by Daemen College.

A leader, a legend and a true friend, Ms. DiPirro’s legacy will be her tireless dedicated service to her community and beyond its borders. I can attest to that as my first interaction with Colleen as a Congressman was in 2005 when we took up the fight with the New York Power Authority (NYPA). As a first year minority member of Congress, we had few allies in this battle. And then a call came from Colleen DiPirro who in her role as President of the WNY Chamber Alliance invited me to speak to the Alliance Leaders about why I was fighting NYPA for the Buffalo waterfront. After our roundtable discussion, Colleen asked if I would be willing to debate a NYPA representative before the invited membership of the Alliance at WNED studios. That November afternoon debate made possible by Colleen’s outreach to provide a neutral forum to promote understanding of the issue helped further galvanize our community to stand up and fight for itself and contributed to our ultimate victory of a \$300 million settlement that continues to fuel the redevelopment of the Buffalo waterfront. I didn’t represent Amherst at that time but that didn’t matter to her as she understood what was good for Buffalo’s waterfront was good for all of Western New York.

Others have certainly shared my appreciation and respect for her abilities as she received the Governor’s Award for Excellence in

Business and served on the Board of Directors of New York State Chamber of Commerce Executives in 1999. Colleen serves as event and sponsorship coordinator and as a member of the Advisory Board for the Buffalo Bills Alumni and was selected by Ralph Wilson, the late owner of the Buffalo Bills, to serve on the Project 21 initiative. Her engagement in developing public policy positions was duly noted on both sides of the aisle as she served on the Transition Team for several Erie County Executives. Governor Pataki selected Colleen as a Commissioner on the Buffalo and Fort Erie Public Bridge Authority and to the State Commission on Judicial Conduct.

Governor Cuomo appointed Colleen to the Western New York Regional Economic Development Council, a position she has held since it was created to develop a regional strategic plan and ensure its coordinated implementation. He also appointed her in 2016 to the Roswell Park Cancer Institute Board of Directors. Colleen currently is a member of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors of Independent Health and was appointed to the Erie County Industrial Development Agency Policy Committee by County Executive Poloncarz.

Her extensive professional and community involvement extends beyond her duties as President and CEO as she served on a variety of committees, boards and associations in leadership and active roles including the WNY Autism Foundation, Hospice Playhouse Project, Executive Women International, Buffalo Prep, Unyts, Williamsville Sweet Home Junior Football Association and Shea's Performing Arts. Additionally, she served as the first Chairman of the University of Buffalo Leadership Development Program.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to recognize Colleen C. DiPirro as the Amherst Chamber of Commerce including staff, board members, family and friends gathers on Thursday, February 1st to celebrate the work and wisdom of this most influential woman. She is most deserving of these heartfelt acknowledgements that reflect her career of almost 40 years of helping businesses, countless individuals and a growing community reach their full potential. We extend all best wishes for continued good health and happiness to Colleen and her sons, Kevin and Keith, and her four grandchildren, Joey and Kaylee, Drew and Luke, as a new chapter begins for her and the Amherst Chamber of Commerce.

PROTECTING YOUNG VICTIMS FROM SEXUAL ABUSE AND SAFE SPORT AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2017

SPEECH OF

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 29, 2018*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, the trial of Larry Nassar and the testimonies of more than 150 brave women have illuminated many injustices. One of the most critical is that our institutions are fundamentally failing to protect

young women and men against predators. Officials at USA Gymnastics, Michigan State University, and the U.S. Olympics committee knew about multiple allegations against Nassar. They knew for years, and they did nothing to reprimand the perpetrator or prevent it from happening again to other young athletes.

This bill, however, does not go far enough. Changes to the governance of these bodies going forward is clearly insufficient to guard the rights of those victims who have already been harmed. The burden should not rest solely on those victims brave enough to advance their claim in a court of law.

The past several months in particular have brought to light the systemic problem of sexual harassment and assault. From Larry Nassar, to Harvey Weinstein, to powerful, elected officials, we've allowed sexual predators and harassers to escape scrutiny and consequences for their actions for far too long. This is unacceptable and it's our responsibility to act. We must continue to not only unmask these individuals and their enablers and bring them to justice, but also work tirelessly to prevent these assaults from happening in the first place.

And to the countless survivors of sexual assault and harassment who so boldly continue to share their stories—I hear you, I believe you, and I thank you for your courage.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ENSURING FULL PARTICIPATION IN THE CENSUS ACT OF 2018

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Ensuring Full Participation in the Census Act of 2018, which would prohibit the Census Bureau ("Bureau") from including questions on the decennial census about citizenship, nationality, or immigration status.

This bill is essential because the Department of Justice recently wrote to the Bureau requesting that it "reinstate on the 2020 Census questionnaire a question regarding citizenship." From 1970 to 2000, this question was sent to only approximately 16 percent of the population during any decennial census through the so-called "long-form." However, the long-form system with that question was dropped from the census and replaced with the current American Community Survey (ACS). The ACS is sent to approximately 3 million people annually on a rotational basis, instead of just with the decennial census, and allows the Bureau to get the necessary information on citizenship, without asking every respondent during the decennial census. Asking questions about citizenship status to every American through the decennial census has not been done in almost 70 years because it would only discourage people, largely in minority communities, which are already underrepresented in the census, from participating in the census. The ACS was created to make the decennial census simpler for American citizens to complete, thus encouraging a higher and more accurate participant rate, and to pre-

serve privacy. Adding questions back into the decennial census about citizenship would defeat this purpose of the ACS. The representative sampling provided by the ACS is more than sufficient to determine citizenship statistics within the United States. We must ensure that all individuals are counted in the decennial census, thereby providing accurate allocation of federal funds and representation in Congress, not reduce participation by already underrepresented minorities because they fear answering questions that are already addressed elsewhere.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this bill.

OPPOSING BEIJING'S UNILATERALLY MODIFIED USE OF CIVIL AVIATION FLIGHT ROUTES IN TAIWAN STRAIT AND SUPPORTING OBSERVER STATUS FOR TAIWAN IN THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

**HON. STEVE KING**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I would like to address two issues that are of great concern to the security and status of Taiwan, a long-time great friend and ally of the United States. First, I am deeply concerned about reports that Beijing has modified the use of civil aviation flight routes in the Taiwan Strait without consultation with Taiwan authorities. Such unilateral actions are unacceptable to all that desire stability and peace in the region. Issues related to civil aviation and safety in the Taiwan Strait should be decided through dialogue between both sides. I encourage authorities in Beijing to engage those in Taipei in constructive dialogue, on the basis of dignity and respect.

Second, I reiterate my support for Taiwan to regain its observer status in the World Health Organization (WHO). As you know, statehood is not a requirement for attendance at the World Health Assembly (WHA)—the decision-making body of the WHO—and so there is no legitimate reason to exclude Taiwan. The People's Republic of China (PRC) is but one nation in the community of many belonging to the WHO and WHA, and should not get to dictate participation to the rest of the body. It is simply not right to treat Taiwan in this way when they contribute so generously to the world, through its role in sectors such as healthcare and international humanitarian aid. Just this month, this House passed H.R. 3320, in support of Taiwan's observer status in the WHO, on suspension by voice vote. This vote is evidence of this body's strong support for Taiwan, which I share and endorse wholeheartedly.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to registering more votes to support and bolster Taiwan's security and status in the world. I am also confident that if we continue to enhance our bilateral relationship, this dynamic partnership that we've built together will continue to thrive in the future, and liberty will increase worldwide.

HONORING MAGGIE MAINE

**HON. MARK SANFORD**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. SANFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Maggie Maine of Bluffton, South Carolina. It is my privilege to recognize her and all that she has overcome and accomplished in just seven short years. On Saturday, February 3rd, 2018, the American Heart Association's Southern Coast Heart Ball will celebrate Maggie's life and the odds she has defied.

Albert Einstein once said that "there are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle." Maggie lives every day as if it is a miracle and, in so doing, inspires all who know her to ask the larger question of how they might make the most of the miracle we have all been granted in life.

Before ever taking a breath, Maggie was diagnosed with Dandy-Walker Syndrome when Renae, her mother, was just 26 weeks pregnant. Since then, Maggie has defied the odds and shown true grit. She lives with multiple congenital heart defects, a malformation of the cerebellum, and is completely dependent on a pacemaker that was installed when she was just an infant.

What these things mean is that her ability to see, walk, jump, and dance are things the doctors told her parents she would never be capable of doing. Yet, she does. Maggie is indeed a miracle kid.

Even at such a young age, she is an inspiration to those around her. As said best by her parents, she is always smiling, even on the worst of days. With that, I would again ask that you join me in honoring Maggie Maine on this momentous occasion for the life she is living, her strength and calm, and for the way she stands as an inspiration that should make all of us smile.

REMEMBERING THE VOYAGE OF  
THE "ORYOKU MARU"**HON. MIKE BOST**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to pause to remember the American POWs who arrived in Japan 73 years ago today. These heroes were survivors of the infamous "death cruise" of the *Oryoku Maru*. These men were prisoners since the American territory fell to the Japanese in the spring of 1942. Of the over 1,600 soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and civilians who left Manila on December 13, 1944, barely 400 arrived at the port of Moji, Japan on January 30, 1945.

"Hell Ship" is simply the only way to describe the vessels and conditions the POWs endured. These men were packed in dark holds of freighters, usually with coal or animal waste. They were given little water, food, or fresh air. Sanitation was non-existent. Men driven insane were quickly and brutally quieted. I became familiar with this story by assisting my constituent, Ms. Jan Thompson, who is the daughter of a survivor of the *Oryoku Maru* journey and is the President of American De-

fenders of Bataan and Corregidor Memorial Society. Her father, Robert E. Thompson, was a Navy Pharmacist's Mate who had been assigned to a submarine tender in Manila Bay, the USS *Canopus*. He was surrendered on Corregidor. It has been my honor to help preserve the memory of the American POWs of Japan and of their experience aboard the Hell Ships to Japan. The 400-plus men who died during the stop at Takao Harbor, Formosa are currently buried in 20 graves marked simply as "Unknowns" at Hawaii's National Cemetery of the Pacific. Soon there will be a memorial plaque on the Memorial Walk at this Cemetery to these men who died aboard the *Enoura Maru* in Formosa on January 9, 1945, which was one of the Hell Ships that took part in the *Oryoku Maru* journey.

TRIBUTE TO KEVIN L. SHAFER,  
P.E.**HON. GWEN MOORE**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kevin L. Shafer, P.E. for being named as one of the Top 25 Global Water Leaders.

Kevin has served as the Executive Director at the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) since March 2002. As Executive Director, Kevin manages approximately 230 MMSD employees and oversees a contract for the operation and maintenance of the sewerage system with a private contractor.

As Executive Director, Kevin developed and implemented an Overflow Reduction Plan; completed a watershed based regional water quality management plan update; initiated a Green Infrastructure Program for the Milwaukee region; helped to found a local non-profit organization, the Southeast Wisconsin Watersheds Trust, and focused on water quality improvements.

Prior to joining the District, Mr. Shafer spent 10 years in private industry and six years with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Fort Worth, Texas. He is a past president of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies. Currently, Kevin is the Chair of the Water Environment Research Foundation and of the U.S. Water Alliance's Urban Water Sustainability Leadership Council. Mr. Shafer received a bachelor's degree in science and civil engineering with a specialty in water resources from the University of Illinois and a master's in civil engineering from the University of Texas.

In December 2017 he was named as one of the Top 25 Global Water Leaders by *Water & Wastewater International Magazine*. This designation is known as a barometer of the industry's thought leaders. The selection was made concentrating on active leaders who are driving companies forward into the digital water age with a focus on innovation.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons I rise to pay tribute and congratulate Kevin Shafer on his award; I am proud that he resides and works in the Fourth Congressional District.

HONORING CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY  
PATROL OFFICER JOHN  
QUINTERO ON THE OCCASION OF  
HIS RETIREMENT**HON. RAUL RUIZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I am humbled to congratulate Officer John Quintero on his well-deserved retirement after 27 years with the California Highway Patrol (CHP). Our entire community is grateful for his dedication to keep our roads and highways safe. Today, I would like to recognize his outstanding career and years of service.

Day in and day out, we use our vehicles to go to various places such as work, school, or visit our loved ones, and we are able to mobilize safely because of the tireless efforts of individuals like Officer Quintero.

He is an esteemed member of our community and a resident of the City of Indio. He is a devoted husband and father of six children. He served as an inspiration for his daughter Jacqueline to follow in his footsteps and become a CHP Officer. His colleagues look up to him as an intelligent, hardworking man.

Officer Quintero began his career in traffic law enforcement in South Los Angeles, where he served for six years. During his early years, he demonstrated a passion to protect our citizens and keep our streets safe, which earned him the Governor's Employee Safety Award for his efforts in vehicle theft. Officer Quintero carries that passion in every task he undertakes, making him an exemplary leader.

Throughout his career, he has held numerous positions including Field Training Officer, Emergency Medical Technician, Shift Supervisor, Drug Recognition Expert, Child Safety Seat Technician, El Protector Hispanic Outreach Office, and Critical Incident Peer Supporter. Officer Quintero was also a member of a Special Response Team, where he served as protection for last year's Republican National Convention in Cleveland.

His commitment to keeping our citizens on the road safe is exemplified by his fast response in saving the lives of two residents who had been shot while driving in the freeway. With the strength they had left, they managed to park their vehicle in front of the Indio CHP Office. Officer Quintero and his daughter rapidly administered medical aid to the male driver and the female passenger, keeping them conscious until the paramedics took them to the hospital. In the process, they collected crucial information about the suspected shooter. After an investigation was conducted, the suspect was arrested. Officer Quintero's outstanding performance and courageous actions are truly commendable.

Officer Quintero has dedicated his life working to ensure our community is safe. Every day, he was willing to sacrifice his life in service of others. His valuable contributions and arduous work will be felt for years to come.

On behalf of the entire 36th Congressional District, I am honored to recognize Officer John Quintero's achievements and years of service. His arduous work and contributions to our community will be felt for years to come. I commend his public service and extend my best wishes on his retirement.



PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. KAY GRANGER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, due to a personal conflict, I was unable to make votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 43, and YEA on Roll Call No. 44.

CONGRATULATING SENATOR  
SLADE GORTON ON HIS 90TH  
BIRTHDAY

**HON. DAVID G. REICHERT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate my dear friend and mentor, Senator Slade Gorton, on recently turning 90 years of age. On January 8th, Senator Gorton celebrated this special day, and I join him in this celebration of a rich life full of achievements and service.

Born on January 8, 1928, Senator Gorton has dedicated his life to serving my home state of Washington and our country. He start-

ed his lifetime of service to this country in the United States military, serving in the Army, as a Lieutenant in the Air Force, and as a Colonel in the Air Force Reserve.

Senator Gorton began his career in politics in 1959 when he was first elected to the Washington State House of Representatives. He served in the State House for ten years and was chosen by his peers as majority leader from 1967 to 1969.

He left that role to serve Washingtonians in a different capacity as State Attorney General for twelve years until 1981. Never willing to give up a fight for what he believed to be right, Senator Gorton argued 14 cases before the United States Supreme Court. During his term as Attorney General, on October 17, 1975, I had the great honor of receiving the Law Enforcement Award of Commendation from Attorney General Gorton as a young Sheriff's Deputy.

But he wasn't through fighting for the interests of Washingtonians. He was elected to the United States Senate in 1981, dedicating eighteen years to representing Washington on some of the most impactful committees in the chamber including Appropriations; Budget; Commerce, Science, and Transportation; and Energy and Natural Resources. Well respected by his colleagues, Senator Gorton served in Republican leadership as counsel to the majority leader.

Following his service in elected office, Senator Gorton has continued to serve the people of Washington and the United States. In 2002, he was asked to be on the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States (9/11 Commission) established by Congress and President George W. Bush. This commission published a report on the circumstances of the September 11th terrorist attacks on our country and included recommendations for how to guard against future attacks.

After an exceptional career in public service, Senator Gorton continues to mentor and educate the rising leaders of the next generation through the Slade Gorton International Policy Center.

I am privileged to consider Senator Gorton a close friend and am honored to celebrate his accomplishments and distinguished career. As I started my own career in politics, Senator Gorton took the time to share with me his experiences and expertise. I am better for his support and encouragement. He was a wonderful example and influence to me, as I took office, on how to best serve the people from our home state of Washington. I am forever grateful.

I join with his family, friends, and Washington's Eighth District in congratulating him on this special occasion and wishing him a wonderful 90th.