

university laboratory and accelerates the economic and societal benefits of NSF-funded basic-research projects that are ready to move toward commercialization. Once a team completes an I-Corp course and wants to introduce their product to the markets, they're left to form and develop a business plan without any prior training or knowledge. However, not all scientists and engineers have the proper educational background to create and run a successful business and many fail in the early stages. In response, the NSF created "I-Corp Go" to teach business skills that are essential and fundamental to a company's success. After the program's initial success, H.R. 5086 was introduced to make it a permanent addition to the I-Corp program.

As a representative of Atlanta, a place where hundreds of small businesses seek to compete with large corporations, this legislation is near and dear to my heart. H.R. 5086 will provide constituents in my district and new innovators with access to high quality educational opportunities and I support this legislation.

CAPTAIN TAMMIE JO SHULTS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, New Mexico High School senior Tammie Jo Shults dreamed of becoming a pilot. As a child, she had watched planes from nearby Holloman Air Force Base practice combat maneuvers in the sky above the ranch where she grew up. Her dream motivated her to attend a lecture on her high school's career day put on by a retired military pilot.

The only obstacle to fulfilling her dream, however, was not her lack of ability but, rather, her gender. Upon entering the room, the retired colonel asked her if she was lost. When she replied that she was there because she was interested in flying, he informed her that there were no professional pilots.

After college, this hurdle manifested itself again and again, as Shults found herself denied from joining the Air Force as a pilot, even though her brother was accepted. She finally broke into the Navy, but as a woman, she was not allowed to fly combat missions.

Nevertheless, Shults's persistence paid off, becoming one of the first women to fly the F/A-18 Hornet, the Navy's premier strike aircraft at the time. She rose to the rank of Lieutenant Commander before retiring. She helped prepare Naval aviators for Operation Desert Storm by flying training missions as an enemy aircraft.

All of these accomplishments and her stellar career as a commercial pilot for Texas-based Southwest Airlines distinguish her as a one of Americas best, but her actions as pilot of Flight 1380 from New York to Dallas have made her a household name.

Shortly after takeoff, the engine on the left side of Shults's aircraft exploded, and shrapnel broke through one of the plane's windows, causing the cabin to abruptly depressurize. Panic ensued on board, as one passenger was partially sucked out of the aircraft, but Shults remained cool and collected.

She informed air traffic control of the plane's situation, and when asked about the engine,

she matter-of-factly replied, "No it's not on fire, but some of its missing. They said there's a hole, and uh, someone went out." Mr. Speaker, try saying that without trembling.

Shults made an emergency landing in Philadelphia, and while one passenger sadly died from the injuries sustained in the accident, the other passengers and crew members exited the aircraft on the ground unharmed.

Mr. Speaker, Shults and her crew saved 148 lives. Women like Shults are exemplary examples of Americas veterans, always answering the call to duty and service. If there's anyone that we want in the cockpit during a crisis, it's Tammie Jo Shults.

And that's just the way it is.

COMMEMORATING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORTH AMERICAN AEROSPACE DEFENSE COMMAND

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2018

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, two thousand eighteen marks the 60th anniversary of the creation of the North American Aerospace Defense Command, commonly referred to as "NORAD." The United States and Canada, bound together by our history, our values, our economy, our environment, and our resolve to improve the lives of our citizens, have long enjoyed a close relationship that has allowed for continuous collaboration building a prosperous future for the people of both countries. The United States and Canada have stood shoulder to shoulder in defense of security for more than 100 years, as partners and allies in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, throughout the Cold War, in Afghanistan, and as part of the Global Coalition against Daesh; working together to advance our shared values.

As indispensable allies in the defense of North America, on May 12, 1958, the United States and Canada signed an official agreement creating the bi-national North American Aerospace Defense Command and formally acknowledged the mutual commitment of both countries to defend their citizens from air domain attacks. This cooperation is an important element of United States and Canadian contributions to the collective defense provided by the members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

The North American Aerospace Defense Command enjoys a unique status as the only fully integrated bi-national military command. The North American Aerospace Defense Command is headquartered at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado Springs, Colorado, with three subordinate region headquarters located at Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, for the Alaskan NORAD Region (ANR); Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida, for the Continental NORAD Region (CONR); and Canadian Forces Base Winnipeg, Manitoba, for the Canadian NORAD Region (CANR), along with three subordinate sector command centers at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, for the Western Air Defense Sector (WADS); Rome, New York, for the Eastern Air Defense Sector (EADS); and Canadian Forces Base North Bay, Ontario, for the Canadian Air Defense Sector (CADS).

The missions of the North American Aerospace Defense Command are to provide aerospace warning, aerospace control, and maritime warning to defend North America. The North American Aerospace Defense Command and the United States Northern Command current operations center is connected to a worldwide system of sensors that provides the Commander of the North American Aerospace Defense Command with a common operating picture of aerospace and maritime threats.

The Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station hosts the Alternate Command Center for the North American Aerospace Defense Command and United States Northern Command. The Commander of the North American Aerospace Defense Command provides integrated tactical warning and attack assessments to the Government of the United States and the Government of Canada.

The North American Aerospace Defense Command uses a network of space-based and ground-based sensors; airborne radars, fighters, and helicopters; and ground-based air defense systems to detect, intercept, and, if necessary, engage air domain threats to North America.

The May 2006 renewal of the North American Aerospace Defense Command Agreement added a maritime warning mission to the slate of responsibilities of the Command, which entails a shared awareness and understanding of the ongoing activities conducted in United States and Canadian maritime approaches, maritime areas, and inland waterways.

The North American Aerospace Defense Command provides continuous surveillance and defense of North American airspace from further airborne aggression or attack, as occurred on September 11, 2001, through the ongoing Operation NOBLE EAGLE mission. The North American Aerospace Defense Command will continue to evolve to address the ever-changing nature of the threats to North America and adapt to future shared security interests.

The outstanding service of United States and Canadian service members from Active Duty and Reserve Component forces and civilians serving at the North American Aerospace Defense Command is central to the ability of North America to confront and successfully defeat aerospace threats of the 21st century. The continuation of this successful relationship between the United States and Canada through the North American Aerospace Defense Command is paramount to the future security of the people of the United States and Canada.

Today, we therefore recognize the contributions made by the North American Aerospace Defense Command to the security of North America, commemorating 60 years of excellence and distinctive service by the men and women of the North American Aerospace Defense Command, reaffirming the critical missions of the North American Aerospace Defense Command headquartered at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado Springs, Colorado, and supporting the role of the North American Aerospace Defense Command in providing bi-national defense of the United States and Canada in the 21st century.

RECOGNIZING HAROLD BLATTIE

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2018

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Harold Blattie, the executive director of the Montana Association of Counties. After more than 15 years serving MACo and more than 40 years as a public servant, Harold Blattie will retire in May.

Mr. Blattie's public service has crossed the paths of many Montanans. In 1975, he was elected to serve on the local school board which he did until 1995. He also served his community as a volunteer firefighter, in local organizations, and on the board of the local electric cooperative.

Mr. Blattie became involved with MACo in 1995 as a commissioner in Stillwater County. He began serving as MACo's assistant director in 2002, and three years later, became executive director. Throughout his time with MACo, Mr. Blattie has been an ardent advocate of the association's goals and vision.

Under his leadership, the organization has grown its staff from 10 to 40. MACo is strong, diverse, capable, and influential. Harold Blattie may have lost a lot of sleep along the way, but he has inspired generations of Montanans committed to serving their communities.

Today, I honor Harold Blattie for his dedication to public service and his tireless defense of our Montana way of life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2018

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, during Roll Call votes held on April 25, 2018, I was inescapably detained handling important matters related to my District and the State of Alabama. If I had been present, I would have voted YES on the Motion to Recommit H.R. 3144, NO on final passage of H.R. 3144, and I would have voted YES on final passage of H.R. 5447.

CONGRATULATIONS ON THE HARD WORK AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY BLUE RAIDER DEBATE TEAM

HON. SCOTT DESJARLAIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2018

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements and hard work of the Middle Tennessee State University debate team.

The team has achieved great success, the likes few have rivaled in the MTSU debate team's long history. While recently in Spo-

kane, Washington, the team placed first in the varsity division, and earned the top season-long award in the team International Public Debate Association format. This year's team has earned five top national awards, a regional title, two state titles, and a total of 148 awards in this season alone.

Today I applaud the 25 dedicated students who make up the Blue Raider Debate Team. These young men and women of all backgrounds coming together to work as a team to accomplish a common goal, serves as an excellent example for all of us. Congratulations to Middle Tennessee State University and the Blue Raiders Debate Team for representing not only their school, but the 4th district of Tennessee in a first-class manner.

HONORING MRS. GLORIA DURAN

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2018

Ms. SÁNCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a champion for children, education, and the LGBTQ community from my Southern California district. Mrs. Gloria Duran passed away March 12, 2018 at the age of 80 after a lifetime of service to the local area. Gloria grew up in Silver City, New Mexico until moving to California. She ultimately made Santa Fe Springs, California per home. Ms. Duran began her career in education as a secretary at Los Nietos Middle School and committed her life to the betterment of the education system, serving as a member of the Los Nietos School Board for 16 years, with unending verve and dedication.

Ms. Duran was a dynamic, energetic woman who fought with passion for the children and seniors she served. Her activism and drive led her from den mother to Chair of the Santa Fe Springs senior citizens advisory committee and membership in the Los Angeles County Commission for Older Adults. She went to great heights, quite literally, to raise money for HIV/AIDS research by jumping out of a plane while in her sixties with her son John Duran. There was no mountain too high for Gloria to climb if it meant making her community a better place.

Gloria Duran was a shining example of what dedicated people can do for their community. While I know the pain of losing such a strong leader will run deep, I hope her family and friends will be comforted by the outpouring of love and fond memories of Gloria's lifetime of service. May her legacy live on and inspire others to serve.

TRIBUTE TO STATE REPRESENTATIVE KATHY RICHARDSON FOR HER SERVICE TO INDIANA

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2018

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the retirement of Kathy

Richardson from the Indiana State House of Representatives after 25 years. For more than two decades, Representative Richardson served her constituents in Indiana's 29th district with distinction. On behalf of Indiana's Fifth District, we are forever grateful for her contributions to our community and the State of Indiana.

Representative Kathy Richardson is a lifelong Hoosier. Born and raised in Hamilton County, Kathy graduated from Noblesville High School in 1974. She began her career in public service working in the Hamilton County Clerk's office filing traffic tickets at the age of 19. She eventually worked her way up to Deputy Clerk, and was elected Hamilton County Clerk in 1982. In 1992, when few women ran for state offices, Richardson was successfully elected to the Indiana State House, representing the 29th district. Kathy continued to work with the Hamilton County Clerk's Office as the Election Administrator for Hamilton County. While serving as Indiana's 29th Representative, Kathy has continued her service with the Clerk's Office.

A born leader, Kathy has stood out among her peers. During her time in the Indiana General Assembly, she served as an elected member of the House Republican leadership. Kathy broke barriers as Republican Caucus Chair, becoming the first woman in Indiana's history to serve in an elected caucus leadership. As Caucus Chair, Kathy guided members and staff in making legislative decisions, while spearheading caucus meetings. Kathy also served on the Elections and Apportionment and Legislative Council, where her years of experience and knowledge brought a high degree of leadership and success.

Kathy's leadership created long lasting, positive change in the State of Indiana. During her tenure, Kathy partnered with Governors Mitch Daniels, Mike Pence, and Eric Holcomb to deliver balanced budgets, lower taxes, and bring jobs to the state. In 2011, Kathy was influential in drawing new redistricting maps for the Indiana House, Senate, and Congressional Districts to reflect the changes in Census data. As a prominent member of the House Elections Committee, Kathy was a crucial contributor to several of Indiana's election reform initiatives. Her guidance and no-nonsense leadership style throughout the process was instrumental in its passage. Kathy was influential in the creation of the Hamilton County Youth Assistance program in Westfield, which works with youth who are at risk prior to entering the courts system. Due to her leadership, and the program's success, it is now being replicated in other communities around the State of Indiana.

Kathy's lifetime of service to her community has been invaluable not only to her district but to the entire state of Indiana. Thanks to work on the economy and job creation, Indiana continues to be a great place to live and do business. Kathy's hard work and invaluable leadership helped make the Indiana General Assembly successful for so many years. On behalf of all Hoosiers, I wish to extend a heartfelt thank you to Representative Richardson for her lifetime of service. I wish the very best to Kathy, her husband Perry Williams as well as the rest of her family as she moves into the next phase of her career in public service.