

Poznan, Poland followed in 1991. We proudly welcomed our newest partners with the mayors and leaders of each community coming together in cultural, economic, educational and humanitarian exchanges.

In 1992 an advisory board of community leaders, the Lucas County Port Authority, Toledo Edison, the Private Industry Council, and the City of Toledo came together to form Toledo Sister Cities International in order to unite existing sister city relationships and develop future affiliations. Twenty-three members of the civic, business, educational, and legal professions created the Founding Board of Trustees in 1993, and the formal incorporation of TSCI as a not-for-profit organization was finalized that year.

The first International Youth Academy was offered by TSCI in 1997, in which students from the Sister Cities attend a three-week long immersion in the culture and language, living with host families in the cities. TSCI also sponsors an international festival each year, during which members of our region share their heritages in a daylong display of heritage, culture, and food showcasing uniqueness while highlighting commonality around the world. Toledo and TSCI were proud to be the host of the Sister City International Conference in 2002, which brought 600 delegates and 300 guests from 28 countries from around the world to Northwest Ohio.

As the years continued, Toledo Sister Cities International flourished. A regional agreement with Lebanon's Beqaa Valley was established in 1998. Relationships were later cemented with Toyohashi, Japan in 2000; Tanga, Tanzania in 2001; Delmenhorst, Germany in 2002; Coimbatore, India in 2010; Hyderabad, Pakistan in 2011; Qinhuangdao/Nanchong, China in 2017 and Coburg, Germany in 2017.

While the stories behind each Sister City are unique, the way that each relationship was established was not—it all came about because people in the Toledo area and throughout the global community found a need to connect with those from another nation. The idea for 'citizen diplomacy' has not diminished as time has marched on. The work that the Toledo Sister Cities International continues to do on behalf of our communities is extraordinary. I am pleased to join Toledo Sister Cities International as we celebrate its 25th Anniversary, reflecting on the past, looking forward to the future, and inspired by an incredible journey of international citizen diplomacy.

RECOGNIZING JAN HACKETT

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 12, 2018

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Jan Hackett, President of the Fannin County Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Hackett recently received the Tourism Leadership Award at the 2018 Governor's Tourism Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. This award is presented to an individual who demonstrates excellence in leadership skills and abilities.

The Georgia Department of Economic Development and the Georgia Association of

Convention and Visitors Bureaus hosts the Governor's Tourism Conference each year. The conference brings together tourism professionals from across the state, including Fannin's own Ms. Hackett.

Tourism is a vital part of Georgia's economy, especially in our beautiful mountain region, employing some 460,000 people across the state and generating over \$63 billion in revenue this year alone. This would not be made possible without individuals like Ms. Hackett.

Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to recognize Ms. Jan Hackett for her leadership, as well as her dedication to tourism in Georgia's Blue Ridge Mountains.

HONORING REGION ONE

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 12, 2018

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Region One Education Services Center. Because of the hard work of their board members, administrators, educators, and students, the Texas Education Agency placed Region One at the top of the performance list.

Region One is made up of Cameron, Hidalgo, Jim Hogg, Starr, Webb, Willacy, and Zapata Counties. This year, 100 percent of the school districts in Region One met the standard set by the Texas Education Agency, outperforming several regions of similar size. Fourteen of the districts in Region One also earned postsecondary readiness distinctions, three of which earned this distinction for the fifth consecutive year.

By setting high expectations for their students and working with the local communities to better understand their needs, Region One has gone above and beyond to provide South Texas students with the tools they need to succeed. There is no doubt in my mind that Region One will continue to empower young South Texans to perform at the highest levels.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to represent the hard-working individuals of the Region One Education Services Center. Our region and its recent success is a shining example of what the 15th District of Texas has to offer.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily

Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, September 13, 2018 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

SEPTEMBER 18

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine Fintech, focusing on digitization, data, and technology.

SD-538

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard

To hold hearings to examine conflicts over ocean resources.

SR-253

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine reducing health care costs, focusing on how transparency can lower spending and empower patients.

SD-430

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the implications of the reinterpretation of the Flores settlement agreement for border security and illegal immigration incentives.

SD-342

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Cybersecurity

To hold closed hearings to examine inter-agency coordination in the protection of critical infrastructure.

SVC-217

SEPTEMBER 20

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine blackstart and other system restoration plans in the electric utility industry.

SD-366

SEPTEMBER 26

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine safeguards for consumer data privacy.

SD-G50

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Cybersecurity

To hold hearings to examine the cyber operational readiness of the Department of Defense; to be immediately followed by a closed session in SVC-217.

SH-216

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Subcommittee on Federal Spending Oversight and Emergency Management

To hold hearings to examine the Federal role in the toxic PFAS chemical crisis.

SD-342

Committee on Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine justice for Native youth, focusing on the Government Accountability Office-

report on “Native American Youth Involvement in Justice Systems and Information on Grants to Help Address Juvenile Delinquency”.

SD-628

OCTOBER 2

10 a.m.
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold hearings to examine implementation of the Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act.

SD-538

OCTOBER 3

2:30 p.m.
Committee on the Judiciary
Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the enforcement of the antitrust laws.
SD-226