

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in celebrating *Nosotros Radio's* 25 years of serving Central New Yorkers. We must also applaud the efforts of community engagement workers like Fanny Villarreal around the nation, who work tirelessly to spread unique cultural viewpoints. It is my hope *Nosotros* continues to succeed in the future and further advances the Syracuse Hispanic community.

PREVENTING CHILD
EXPLOITATION ACT OF 2018

SPEECH OF

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that the House is considering H.R. 6847, the Preventing Child Exploitation Act, which includes a reauthorization of key provisions of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act. As the original sponsor of the 2006 Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act, I have made a point to seek remedies to prevent the sexual exploitation of our nation's children. This law strengthened sex offender registry requirements and enforcement across the country, extended registry requirements to Indian tribes, increased penalties for child predators, and authorized funding for a number of programs to strengthen our defenses against child exploitation.

A primary component of the law is the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act ("SORNA"), which set minimum guidelines for state sex offender registries. SORNA also established the *Dru Sjodin National Sex Offender Public Website*, a comprehensive national system for the registration and notification to the public of sex offenders. Currently, this registry contains information on more than 600,000 convicted sex offenders in the United States.

But, as several widely-publicized scandals have shown, the fight against child exploitation is not over. The Justice Department reports that only 16 states, three territories, and 36 tribes have substantially implemented SORNA, despite a July 27, 2011 deadline for reaching substantial compliance. There are also an estimated 100,000 fugitive sex offenders across the United States who are unregistered or otherwise noncompliant with their registry requirements.

H.R. 6847 includes a five year reauthorization of the two primary programs of the Adam Walsh Act. These include the Sex Offender Management Assistance Program, which provides funding to the states, tribes and other jurisdictions to offset the costs of implementing and enhancing SORNA, and funding for the U.S. Marshals Service and other law enforcement agencies to assist jurisdictions in locating and apprehending sex offenders who violate registration requirements. The bill also reauthorizes grants for the treatment of juvenile sex offenders, as well as funding for the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children ("NCMEC"), a Congressionally-authorized not-for-profit corporation that provides resources for families and law enforcement officials to assist in the recovery of missing children and prevent the victimization of children.

By incorporating feedback from the states, the bill makes targeted changes to the SORNA requirements in order to facilitate the states' compliance with the Act. These changes include giving the States more flexibility in classifying sex offenders on their registry, lowering the period that certain juveniles must register to 25 years, and limiting public access to juvenile sex offender information.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2018

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 400, and YEA on Roll Call No. 401.

CONGRATULATING BLAKE KEITH HUFF AND BENJAMIN M. HAWKINS FOR RECEIVING THE CARNEGIE MEDAL OF HEROISM

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2018

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it's my honor to congratulate Blake Keith Huff and Benjamin M. Hawkins for receiving the Carnegie Medal in recognition of their act of extraordinary heroism. Through their actions, Blake and Benjamin have shown themselves to be selfless, courageous, and indispensable parts of Michigan's First District.

The Carnegie Medal was established in 1904 by the industrialist and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie. It is given to recognize those who perform extraordinary acts of heroism in civilian life, and to provide financial assistance for those disabled and the dependents of those killed saving or attempting to save others. Since 1904, more than 10,000 awardees have been honored, with more than \$40 million given in grants, scholarships, death benefits, and other assistance. There is no doubt that Benjamin and Blake are deserving of this honor.

Mary Jo Tester, 50 and a paraplegic, was in her home's living room when fire broke out and began to spread in that room. Tester called for help. Huff, a 23-year-old police sergeant, and Hawkins, a 35-year-old deputy sheriff, both of Kalkaska, responded to the home after learning of the fire. Seeing flames through the living room window and black smoke issuing from the eaves, Huff and Hawkins entered the home. Huff crawled on his belly about 15 feet across the living room toward Tester, who was on the floor with flames nearby. Along the way he moved a recliner, which was on fire, from his path. Hawkins crawled inside behind Huff.

Reaching Tester on the far side of the room amid nearby flames, Huff grasped Tester by the ankles and crawled backward, dragging her. Hawkins grasped Huff's pant leg and pulled and guided Huff, Tester in tow, to the door. Huff and Hawkins lifted Tester and carried her from the home. While Mary Jo tragically died of smoke inhalation five days later, the heroic actions of Benjamin and Blake

serve as an inspiration for those in Michigan's First District. Their courage and devotion to public duty have touched the lives of countless community members, and the impact of their heroism cannot be overstated.

Mr. Speaker, it's my honor to recognize Blake and Benjamin for their exceptional heroism and congratulate them for receiving the Carnegie Medal. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing the First District is home to such selfless and courageous individuals. On behalf of my constituents, I wish Benjamin and Blake all the best in their future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF DAVID HILL

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2018

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor my good friend, Constable David Hill, for his fifty plus years of tireless service to the residents, businesses, and families of the Eighth Congressional District of Texas.

As a sixth grade student in Palestine, Texas, David first set his sights on a job in law enforcement after a career day presentation by the Border Patrol at his local elementary school. In 1967, David fulfilled this goal when he began working in Huntsville, Texas at the Texas Department of Corrections as a correctional officer. Shortly thereafter, David decided to join the Department of Public Safety (DPS), eventually becoming the second Trooper ever assigned to Magnolia. At first, David only planned on staying in Magnolia for a year, but he quickly fell in love with the area and decided to make Magnolia home—beginning his fifty-year relationship with the community he loved so dearly.

After some praying, in 1982 David made the life-changing decision to leave his position as a State Trooper to run for Constable of Precinct 5 in Montgomery County. Due to a policy by the DPS, David was required to resign from his current position to run for public office. However, David won the election for Constable—an office he has served in admirably since 1983.

Through his job and his personal life, David has shaped the Magnolia community for the better. During his time as constable, David held himself to the highest of standards and always allowed his Christian principles to guide his actions. His selfless service and the positive impact he has made on the Magnolia community has certainly not gone unnoticed. The impact of David's time of service will be felt for years to come, and I know his presence as Constable will be greatly missed.

David is excited to start his well-deserved, hard-earned retirement. He plans on traveling with his wife and visiting every state. The Magnolia community was blessed to have David for the past fifty years, and we are happy to see him begin this new chapter of his life.

I am proud to join his colleagues, friends, and family members in thanking David for his years of public service and wishing him the best as he begins his retirement.