

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND TROY PERRY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Reverend Troy D. Perry of Los Angeles, California, founder of the Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) which this year celebrates its 50th Anniversary. Today, we celebrate his commitment to MCC and the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) Community.

Rev. Troy Perry has been a force and pioneer for LGBTQ human rights, advocating for legal, spiritual, and social equality. As the founder of the Metropolitan Community Church in 1968, he created the first church designed to minister to the needs of its LGBTQ members. What began as a small gathering in his apartment, blossomed into the flourishing organization of the MCC with churches across the country. The MCC created a safe space for members of the LGBTQ community to congregate.

Along with establishing the MCC, Rev. Perry was one of the founders of the first gay pride event in Los Angeles in 1970. With the goal of commemorating the Stonewall uprising of 1969, he collaborated with other community leaders to create Christopher Street West, the organization that held its first gay pride parade on June 28, 1970. Because of his visionary and inspiring actions, LA PRIDE continues today under the auspices of Christopher Street West. Rev. Perry continued his advocacy for gender and sexual equity and became the first openly gay person to serve on the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations in 1973. In recognition of his vital work for LGBTQ rights, Rev. Perry was invited to the White House by President Jimmy Carter to discuss his civil rights work. Rev. Perry continued his advocacy on the national stage, being appointed as an official delegate to the White House Conference on Hate Crimes and the White House Conference on AIDS by President Bill Clinton.

Rev. Troy Perry has been honored by many esteemed institutions over the years for his work on behalf of the LGBTQ community. Rev. Perry received the Humanitarian Award from the American Civil Liberties Union, Lesbian and Gay Rights Chapter and has been honored by the Gay Press Association for his advocacy and work establishing progressive and inclusive communities of faith.

I ask all Members to join me in congratulating Reverend Troy Perry, a paramount voice for peace, tolerance, and understanding for his lifetime of outstanding service to the LGBTQ community and to our nation.

HONORING NATHAN DAVIS AND CHILDREN'S CARDIOMYOPATHY AWARENESS MONTH

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my constituents, Nathan Davis of Norman, Oklahoma, and in support of Children's Cardiomyopathy Awareness Month.

As an infant, Nathan had a virus which caused his heart to develop dilated cardiomyopathy, a life-long and degenerative heart disease that thins the heart muscle. The heart virus also caused Nathan to have a seizure that lasted three days. He survived against the odds but was left with long-term effects of cardiomyopathy and his seizures. Nathan grew up in a town that focused heavily on sports but was never able to play. His seizures caused short-term memory loss, exacerbated by his daily heart medications. These life challenges have also caused Nathan to suffer from mental health illnesses. His daily prayer is that with increased awareness and funding for cardiomyopathy that eventually a cure can be found.

September is Children's Cardiomyopathy Awareness month, which helps to raise the profile and spread information about cardiomyopathy and the effects it can have on children and their families. As in the case of Nathan, cardiomyopathy can lead to life-long difficulties, or, tragically, death. It is a leading cause of sudden cardiac arrest, particularly among young people, and is the leading cause of heart transplants for children over one year of age. Because symptoms are not always obvious, cardiomyopathy can easily remain undetected, with often fatal consequences. The mortality rate for pediatric cardiomyopathy exceeds that of all childhood cancers combined, and yet there is a shocking lack of both awareness and research on this terrible disease.

I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Nathan Davis and his fight to raise awareness for cardiomyopathy.

RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER AS NATIONAL RICE MONTH

HON. GREGG HARPER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of the numerous rice farming-families and industry stake-holders across Mississippi and the five other major rice growing states. The month of September does not only mark the beginning of harvest season across the hundreds of rice farms in my home state, but it also marks National Rice Month. We recog-

nize the American families and over 125,000 individuals that grow, harvest, mill, and process this important crop.

In my home state of Mississippi, 2,194 jobs are supported by these farmers, generating \$110.9 million in total labor income. The rice production system, from start to finish, contributes more than \$302 million to the state's economic output.

Rice production in America has grown tremendously over its 300-year history; almost 85 percent of the rice consumed by Americans is produced across these six states, and I am proud Mississippi is among them. In Mississippi, rice farmers on average harvest over 150,000 acres, producing more than 1.25 billion pounds of rice each year.

Along with feeding American families and exporting their crop to 120 countries, rice farmers are conservationists and stewards of the land. While increasing their yields by over 50 percent, American rice farmers have significantly reduced their energy, land, and water use over the last 20 years. By using 35 percent less land and 53 percent less water, rice farmers have cut costs, increased productivity, and created a more sustainable future for our American farmlands.

We take the time during the month of September to thank those farmers, millers, and merchants, and the lives that they impact; both as job creators, and as a group that feeds our families across the country and around the world.

CELEBRATING CHILDREN'S CARDIOMYOPATHY AWARENESS MONTH

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Children's Cardiomyopathy Awareness Month, and events such as AED Hunt on the Hill which raise awareness on the lifesaving value of AEDs.

According to the American Red Cross Organization, improved training and access to AEDs could save as many as 50,000 lives each year, and all Americans should be within 4 minutes of an AED and someone trained to use it. With an average response time of 8–12 minutes for first responders once 911 is called, it's a responsibility for all of us to prepare to help in the event of a cardiac emergency. Sudden cardiac arrest is one of the leading causes of death in the U.S. and for each minute defibrillation is delayed, the chance of survival is reduced by approximately 10 percent.

As a doctor, I've seen the value of accessible AEDs firsthand. Several years ago in 2011, I was grabbing coffee on a layover in Charlotte Douglas International Airport on the way to Washington, D.C. when I heard someone call out for a doctor. At that point, an individual had collapsed to the ground and was

• 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.

not exhibiting a pulse. For 3–4 minutes I worked with a woman on hand to perform CPR until emergency services could arrive on the scene with a portable defibrillator.

September is Children's Cardiomyopathy Awareness Month. Cardiomyopathy is a chronic disease of the heart muscle that can present in a variety of forms and may, in severe cases, lead to heart failure or sudden death. It is the leading causes of sudden death in young people, and the primary cause of heart transplants in children over the age of one. Knowing your family's history and heart health, and discussing it with your doctor, can help determine whether you or a family member is at risk.

Once again, I applaud events like AED Hunt on the Hill, and all efforts to raise awareness during Children's Cardiomyopathy Awareness Month.

RECOGNIZING MR. JEFFREY C. GREENFIELD

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Jeffrey C. "Jeff" Greenfield and to congratulate him on his recent retirement following 29 years of dedicated public service, including 24 years as an elected representative on the Fairfax City Council.

Jeff grew up in Fairfax City. He graduated from Fairfax High School, and earned both his Bachelor of Arts in political science and Master of Public Administration degrees at our very own George Mason University. He began his career in public service in 1989 when he was appointed to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Five years later, Jeff was elected to the City Council, a position that he was re-elected to twelve times. By his own estimates, he has attended more than 850 City Council meetings and countless committee, neighborhood, and regional meetings.

My own start in public service came as President of my local citizens association followed by 14 years on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, the last 5 as Chair. My term taught me many things, but one of the enduring lessons I learned is that local government is truly where the rubber meets the road. It is the local governments that are often tasked with rolling up their sleeves and getting the problem solved. Partisan identification is irrelevant. One of the uniquely rewarding aspects of local government is the ability to leave a physical legacy in your community. Whether it be a crosswalk that you had installed, a traffic calming measure or perhaps even a new building, you can truly say that you made a difference in your community.

In addition to serving on the Fairfax City Council, Jeff has also served as a member of the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission, the Local Emergency Planning Committee and the Board of Directors for the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments as well as its Policy and Human Service and Public Safety Committees. In each of these roles, he has worked to improve the lives of the residents of Fairfax City and Northern Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, this region is blessed to have a tremendous well of civic engagement and

community spirit present. That spirit is reflected in the service of citizens and elected representatives like Jeff Greenfield. Although he may be retired from the City Council, I am confident that he will continue to be involved in those issues that are important to him and his family. I thank him for his service to our community and thank his wife Lisa and daughter Alexandra for the sacrifices they have made. I ask my colleagues to please join me in congratulating Jeff and his family and in wishing them continued success.

REMEMBERING THE DESEGREGATION OF STRATFORD HIGH SCHOOL IN NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Stratford High School and the Nashville community on the 55th anniversary of the school's desegregation. On that remarkable day, four twelve-year-old girls courageously walked into Stratford High School prepared to change history and open the doors of opportunity for all.

The lessons of Nashville's involvement in the Civil Rights Movement are still teaching us how to build a more perfect union. In a 1960 speech in Nashville, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "I came to Nashville not to bring inspiration, but to gain inspiration from the great movement that has taken place in this community." Equal access to quality education, like that provided at Stratford, is vital to growing leaders who will inspire generations to come.

In 1963, just a few days after Dr. King spoke of a dream from the Lincoln Memorial, Bernadine Price [Rabathaly], Beverly Page [Ward], Brenda Harris [Haywood], and Pamela Franklin walked into school and trusted the content of their character. With the help, encouragement, and protection of the school's Assistant Principal, Ronald Webb, the students overcame obstacles that no students should face and helped change our nation forever.

As we reflect on the past, let us remember and thank these heroic individuals for their relentless efforts in making our community a stronger place, and realize we still have a lot of work to do.

HONORING FORMER CONGRESSMAN LEONARD BOSWELL

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor former Congressman Leonard Boswell. I was good friends with Mr. Boswell, he was a fellow Blue Dog and we attended many events together over the years. I had the opportunity to visit his district and saw his passion for serving his constituents.

Mr. Boswell was one of the most highly decorated combat veterans in Congress. He

was in the United States Army for twenty years and served two tours of duty in Vietnam. While in Congress, he was highly regarded for his service to veterans and leaves behind a legacy of commitment to those who have served in uniform. I succeeded him on the Eisenhower Commission, where I was well informed of his great work and dedication.

Mr. Boswell was committed to the principles of fiscal responsibility and good governance. He considered it his duty to ensure that future generations would not be burdened with enormous debt and underfunded social programs.

Not only was Mr. Boswell an outstanding representative for his district, he was also one of the nicest and most unassuming Members with whom I have had the pleasure of serving.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 6157, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2019; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. 1071, RECOGNIZING THAT ALLOWING ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS THE RIGHT TO VOTE DIMINISHES THE VOTING POWER OF UNITED STATES CITIZENS; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to the rule governing debate for H.R. 6157, the "DOD and Labor HHS Appropriations Act for FY 2019."

I must oppose this rule and urge the defeat the previous question, not because we do not support the troops or our children, but because defeating the previous question will enable this House to consider and pass H.R. 6545, the "Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2018."

This is an opportunity we do not want to squander.

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) is a landmark piece of legislation passed in 1994 following the Anita Hill moment that opened our eyes to the then overwhelming problems faced by victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

By passing the VAWA, we can stop the re-victimizing, re-traumatizing and stigmatizing of sexual assault survivors.

Enough is Enough.

Science tells us that trauma severely impacts recall. So let us do our jobs and help them.

Women deserve to be respected, protected and NEVER neglected.

As we all know very clearly, VAWA is set to expire this week and millions of innocent lives are counting on us to get this right and reauthorize VAWA now.

Help women, men and children everywhere throughout our great country that have, are and will suffer at the hands of perpetrators that commit these violent and abusive crimes.

Clearly these victims deserve more than a mere 3 month expedient extension or piecemeal product to combat these challenges of monumental proportion.

What will we say to them?

The current climate of the MeToo movement is a wakeup call to the Nation. Let's not make this a partisan issue, because crimes of violence against anyone must be addressed.

Therefore, when we ignore an extraordinary movement such as the MeToo movement by not reauthorizing a strengthened and improved VAWA that meets today's challenges, then we have failed women.

If we do not defeat this previous question we are telling all of our constituents that rely heavily on VAWA and all of those that care about protecting women, men and children's rights against violence that we do not care.

On July 26, 2018, I introduced H.R. 6545, VAWA 2018, which is a compromise version with modest improvements, because I am committed to passing a bipartisan Reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act that is tailored to appeal to Members of Congress across the political spectrum.

We should all be committed to do the same in order to respond to the desperate pleas of our sisters and brothers in dire need of our help.

Colleagues, this is your moment to do the right thing for the right reasons and help bring H.R. 6545 to the floor for a vote.

This has always been a bipartisan effort. Let's not let the current times and background noise sway us away from our pivotal duties. Let's show the American people that we care about victims of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, sexual assault and sexual harassment, which I have added in VAWA 2018.

H.R. 6545 has received the support of the National Task Force to End Sexual and Domestic Violence, which is a national collaboration comprising a large and diverse group of national, tribal, state, territorial and local organizations, advocates, and individuals that focuses on the development, passage and implementation of effective public policy to address domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking ("the four crimes").

These modest, yet vital updates we have made to the existing Violence Against Women Act ("VAWA") are based on the needs identified by direct service providers who work daily with victims and survivors of the four crimes.

H.R. 6545 makes the following improvements and more:

It makes important investments in prevention, a key priority identified not only by people who work with victims and survivors daily, but also by our very own bipartisan Women's Caucus.

It provides resources to implement evidence-based prevention programming, which will make our communities safer and, ultimately, saves taxpayers money.

It also safeguards important protections that ensure all victims and survivors have access to safety and justice and provides a mechanism to hold predators who prey on Native women accountable.

Moreover, it provides law enforcement with new tools to protect their communities.

It offers protections for survivors in federal public, subsidized, and assisted housing.

It supports victims and survivors who need assistance rebuilding financially.

It addresses the needs of underserved communities, and improves the healthcare response to the four crimes.

It closes many of the loopholes found in dating violence.

And in response to the overwhelming victims in the MeToo movement, it adds sexual harassment as part of the applicable crimes of violence.

In short, the Reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act of 2018 is a narrow bill with a wide impact.

Let's not play politics with people's lives. Let's not short-change them by slashing funding in half. Let's not kick the can down the road while omitting funding. Let's not dismiss their cries and pleas. And certainly, let's not punish them mercifully because #THEY DID NOT REPORT.

RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2018 LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA—PRINCE WILLIAM, INC. AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recipients of the 2018 Literacy Volunteers of America—Prince William Inc. awards. Literacy Volunteers of America—Prince William Inc. (LVA—PW) is a local nonprofit organization that has served Prince William County for more than 25 years. Its mission is to improve lives through adult literacy. It trains local volunteers to become tutors then pairs them with adults seeking to improve their literacy or English language skills. LVA—PW offers a range of literacy services including GED classes, computer literacy, citizenship preparedness, English as a second language classes, and more.

Every year LVA—PW hosts an annual meeting and award presentation to honor and share in the achievements of its adult learners and volunteers. I am proud to include in the RECORD the names of the following LVA—PW award recipients:

Student of the Year: Bismark Osei. Bismark came to the U.S. from Ghana two years ago. He is a devoted and hardworking family man who came to LVA—PW seeking to better his life and further his education through earning a GED certificate. He joined LVA—PW's GED program one year ago and started taking three classes a week while also working full-time as a security guard. By August 7, 2018, through hard work and perseverance, he earned his GED certificate after only 10 months in the program. He plans to continue furthering his education and career goals by enrolling in college.

Tutor of the Year: Eduardo Lopez. Eduardo has been a volunteer with LVA—PW for more than two years. He serves as both a GED math tutor and basic computer literacy tutor. Since beginning at LVA—PW, he has provided over 350 volunteer hours while also working full-time. His passion, patience and encouragement inspires his students. This year alone, he has helped two students prepare for and pass the GED test. Eduardo is a living example of the impact that a single individual can have on a community.

Patti J. Beattie Volunteer of the Year: Martha Kobliska. Martha has been a volunteer with LVA—PW for more than 11 years. She serves as a tutor, fundraiser, and tutor trainer. As part of the tutor training team, she provides professional level training and certifications to all new tutors. This year alone, she has volunteered in excess of 325 hours to LVA—PW. Martha demonstrates her compassion and commitment to helping others through her positive spirit and willingness to serve whenever called upon.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating each of the LVA—PW award recipients and to thank them for their contributions to our community.

RECOGNIZING THE AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION BLACK CAUCUS OF HEALTH WORKERS

HON. BRENDA L. LAWRENCE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the American Public Health Association (APHA) Black Caucus of Health Workers on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. This organization, which is the first and oldest caucus of the APHA, was founded during the Association's 1968 annual meeting held in my hometown of Detroit, Michigan.

For 50 years, the APHA Black Caucus of Health Workers has worked diligently to eliminate and reduce gaps in health and health outcomes by improving the quality of life of people of African American descent through advocacy, knowledge, practice and research. They perform valuable work in a field that has an immeasurable impact on the lives of all Americans.

In addition to raising the standard of care across our nation, the Black Caucus of Health Workers works to eliminate institutional racism in their industry, to ensure that minorities in the healthcare industry are receiving equal treatment and a proper quality of life. They also support the future of our workforce by helping African American students complete their studies in public health programs. This essential work has developed a strong community of African American employees in the healthcare industry.

The Caucus continues to move our nation forward every day by improving healthcare delivery and fostering innovation. The Caucus closely monitors developments in the field and provides a crucial forum for communication among African American healthcare workers, so that they can share ideas to improve their work and their entire industry.

On this momentous occasion, I want to congratulate the visionary founders and members of the APHA Black Caucus of Health Workers, as well as APHA's current Executive Director, Dr. Georges Benjamin, and all the leaders of the APHA for their important work. I look forward to their continued work for the health of our nation.

RECOGNIZING CHILDREN'S CARDIOMYOPATHY AWARENESS MONTH

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting the Cardiomyopathy Health Education, Awareness, Risk Assessment and Training in the Schools (HEARTS) Act and in recognition of Children's Cardiomyopathy Awareness Month.

Cardiomyopathy affects both children and adults and is a chronic and potentially life-threatening heart condition that affects how the heart pumps blood through the body. The disease presents differently in individuals, and it can be difficult to detect when there are no apparent symptoms. For those not diagnosed, the consequences can be devastating. Research has shown that cardiomyopathy is a leading cause of sudden cardiac arrest.

All too often, we hear of an adult or child collapsing unexpectedly due to an undiagnosed heart condition. The Cardiomyopathy HEARTS Act will help educate affected individuals and their families, as well as school and health professionals about cardiomyopathy and encourage families to evaluate their family's cardiac history, check for cardiomyopathy symptoms, and seek medical screening if necessary.

Despite the severity of the cardiomyopathy, little is known about the prevalence, causes, and reasons for its variability. The Cardiomyopathy HEARTS Act also addresses this by requesting the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to evaluate current research initiatives on cardiomyopathy and direct the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to collect and analyze national data to identify the impact, prevalence, and natural history of cardiomyopathy.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill and helping the many families and children who are touched by this under-recognized condition.

And now is a great time to show our support. September is Children's Cardiomyopathy Awareness, to help raise the profile and spread information about this terrible disease. By encouraging individuals to know one's family's history and heart health, and discussing it with their doctor, can help determine whether one's child is at risk.

The Children's Cardiomyopathy Foundation, based in my home state of New Jersey, is the leading nonprofit in providing resources and support to families and children struggling with this terrible disease. They also work to raise awareness, along with their grassroots network of families and advocate for research and policies to help those suffering from pediatric cardiomyopathy.

It is my pleasure to help raise awareness for the Foundation and for pediatric cardiomyopathy.

MARKING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COLLEGE OF SOUTHERN MARYLAND

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the College of Southern Maryland on its sixtieth anniversary. I join in thanking President Maureen Murphy, faculty, staff, students, and alumni on this milestone. Recognized by the 2019 Aspen Prize as one of the top 150 community colleges in the nation, the College of Southern Maryland provides thousands of students with pathways to successful careers.

Founded as the Charles County Community College in 1958, its first classes met in the evenings at La Plata High School. A decade later, the College's La Plata campus opened its doors, and branches were launched to serve St. Mary's and Calvert Counties in the years that followed. Its name change to the College of Southern Maryland in 2000 reflected a growing regional institution of higher learning. Now, as it begins its seventh decade serving the community, the College provides a broad range of associate degrees, certifications, skills training courses, and wellness programs.

Always adapting to meet the educational challenges of its day, the College continues to adopt new technologies to further its mission. It now offers twelve fully online degree programs and is committed to continued innovation in the design and implementation of curricula. The College has stayed true to its foundational principles of diversity, affordability, accessibility, and forging innovative partnerships that benefit students. More than sixty academic institutions have partnered with the College of Southern Maryland to offer guaranteed transfer admission to its graduates who complete their associate's degrees and meet other criteria.

I've been proud over the years to support the work of the College of Southern Maryland, including by securing \$497,000 for its Nursing and Allied Health Care Training and Technology program in 2008 and \$468,000 for its STEM Workforce Initiative in 2009. I was happy to be on hand when the clinical nursing lab was opened in 2010 as well as to help facilitate a U.S. Department of Labor grant of \$1.5 million in 2012 for the College's program to teach juvenile offenders in-demand job skills for success in the workforce after their release. For the past six decades, the College has lived up to its vision of "transforming lives through lifelong learning and service", and I look forward to working with President Murphy and the entire College of Southern Maryland community to ensure that it can continue to do so.

RECOGNIZING THE GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY OF LANCE AND KARLA MORRELL

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Lance and Karla Morrell on the occa-

sion of their Golden Anniversary. I have had the great pleasure of personally knowing Lance and Karla for many years and consider them not only neighbors but wonderful friends. I can personally attest to their dedication to their family and community.

Lance Morrell and Karla Jane Brownmiller met as students at the University of Richmond. While attending the University of Richmond, Karla was Phi Beta Kappa and Lance was the senior class president. They married in Arlington, VA in 1968 and began their life journey together.

Lance served honorably in the United States Army and Army Reserves for more than 20 years, retiring as a Lt. Colonel. After his discharge he worked for 22 years with the World Bank where he managed projects to reduce poverty, provide clean water, and strengthen democratic governance in Southeast Asia and Africa. Lance spent years toiling in some of the poorest parts of Africa to help those most in need of assistance and Karla often travelled with him. He then founded FEI Consulting which allowed him to continue his efforts to improve living standards in the developing world.

Karla focused her attention on the family, especially their three sons. She and Lance have always been very involved in their children's education and activities. She was an active member of countless PTA's and volunteered at the snack bar at school sporting events for more than 15 years. Now, as a grandmother of five, most of her days are spent watching at least one of her grandchildren—a job that Karla adores.

Lance and Karla moved to Mantua in 1977 and immediately plunged themselves into local community activities. In fact, Karla and I served together on the Mantua Citizens Association for a number of years.

She was an irreplaceable ally during the period following a massive underground oil spill from a nearby tank farm into the neighborhood. Karla and I, along with many of our neighbors, coordinated efforts between the community, local, state, and federal agencies, and the tank farm owners. Our efforts ensured that the clean-up was done effectively, that the tank farm owners made necessary safety improvements and that they were held responsible for the damage done.

I had the great pleasure of working with Lance and Karla, along with other Northern Virginia neighbors, in the founding of the Cradle of Love Foundation. This Foundation, which operated from 2004 to 2008, was established to help provide financial support for an orphanage in the Philippines.

I often encourage people to "bloom where you are planted." This phrase, attributed to the Bishop of Geneva, Saint Francis de Sales, can mean different things to different people. To me it means that you should get involved in your community and take advantage of the opportunities to contribute that surround you. Whether it is volunteering, entering public service, coaching a youth sports team, or planting a tree, each of us has the ability and the responsibility to get involved. Lance and Karla Morrell are living examples of this philosophy in action.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Lance and Karla Morrell on their 50th wedding anniversary and in thanking them for their many efforts to improve our community and the lives of others. I wish

Lance, Karla, and their entire family continued success, health and happiness.

HONORING TANNER LEE JAMESON

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, this past June marked the nine-year anniversary since Tanner Lee Jameson collapsed at a school basketball game. Tanner was in cardiac arrest and needed an automated external defibrillator or AED. But the school's defibrillator was inaccessible, and Tanner did not survive.

Seconds count for those suffering from sudden cardiac arrest. Chance of survival decreases 7–10 percent for every minute without CPR and a defibrillator. A defibrillator is easy to operate and highly effective in restoring the heart's normal rhythm. Schools with AED programs have survival rates of over 70 percent, as compared to only 10 percent for children in schools without AEDs.

Because of this, I am proud to have introduced House Resolution 35 to encourage public schools with AEDs to hold annual training in their schools on how to use their AEDs. My resolution has the support of the American Heart Association, American Ambulance Association, the American College of Cardiology, National Association of School Nurses, and many others.

My constituent and Tanner's mother, Rhonda Harrill, has been a dedicated advocate for increased AED presence and awareness. Thanks to her efforts, Tennessee has passed two laws increasing the number of schools with AEDs, especially in readily-accessible locations.

I am honored to represent constituents such as Rhonda, who has celebrated her son Tanner's life by advocating for the lives of others' children.

Today, I am pleased to join my colleagues in participating in the AED Hunt on the Hill, an annual event hosted by the Children's Cardiomyopathy Foundation. Cardiomyopathy affects how the heart pumps blood through the body and is the most common cause of sudden cardiac arrest in the young. This condition does not have obvious symptoms, so it is often not detected until tragedy strikes.

It is my pleasure to have the opportunity to remember Tanner Jameson's life and participate in this year's AED Hunt on the Hill. We can all help save lives by increasing awareness about the importance of having accessible AEDs.

HONORING JONATHAN LAVIN

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished career of Jonathan Lavin. After 45 years of dedicated service in the field of aging, Jon will be retiring as President and CEO of AgeOptions, the suburban Cook County Area Agency on Aging, on October 31st.

Jon Lavin is a leader, innovator, advocate, and a mentor who has trained many advocates to fight for the needs of seniors, including Kris Sadur and Maribeth Stein who went on to work in my district office helping constituents. As the former executive director of the Illinois State Council of Senior Citizens and as a member of Congress, I am one of many who have learned from Jon. He is my friend, and I will miss working with him as he steps down from his current role.

Jon combines serious policy knowledge with a commitment to service and making real improvements in people's lives. Jon earned a master's Degree in Public Administration and a bachelor's Degree in Government from the American University in Washington, D.C. After working for the City of Chicago Department on Aging for five years, he went on to spend the next 40 years shaping AgeOptions to be what it is today; one of the most respected Area Agencies on Aging in the country. His oversight of a staff of 40 and coordination of grants and contracts to more than 45 different community agencies, have enabled AgeOptions to serve 523,000 older adults living in more than 130 communities.

In Illinois, Jon Lavin is the go-to person when it comes to identifying the needs of seniors and then working to meet them. Some of the positions he has held are: Vice President and Legislative Committee Chair for the Illinois Association of Area Agencies on Aging, past Board Director of the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging, and Co-Chairman of the 2015 and 2017 American Society on Aging Annual Conference in Chicago. He was a delegate to the 1995 and 2005 White House Conferences on Aging, former member of the National Council on Aging Board of Directors, and former President of the Illinois Coalition on Aging.

In his mission to continually advocate for the most vulnerable older adults in the region, he has pioneered many innovative programs. Those include the care coordination units to assure appropriate care planning for the frailest older adults, one of the original demonstration programs to protect older adults from abuse and neglect, the Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) program created to protect Medicare beneficiaries against fraud and abuse, and the development of the first long-term care ombudsman program in the region.

As a true advocate, Jon has promoted the need for public and provider educational outreach and greater access to state and federal benefit programs. His administration of programs like the Red Tape Cutters Program and BenefitsCheckUp have provided millions of dollars in program benefits for eligible older adults and persons with disabilities. AgeOptions also leads the renowned Make Medicare Work Coalition (MMW), which works with partner agencies to educate and explain the intricacies of health insurance and Medicare, as well as Medicaid's critical health and long-term care benefits for seniors.

Jon's commitment to providing support for caregivers led to the creation of the National Family Caregiver Support program in the Older Americans Act to ensure that family support givers were recognized and funded.

The talent of Jon Lavin has not gone unnoticed. He received the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging's Excellence in Leadership Award in 2017 and Distinguished Director Award in 1992. He is the 1994 recipient of

the Phyllis Pinkerton Award for Leadership in Advocacy and Make Medicare Work Coalition recognized him at their April Summit for his dedicated service. In May, Metropolitan Asian Family Services presented him with its 2018 Community Service Award for his "dedicated, continued support and advocacy on behalf of the ethnic elderly population through various public benefit programs."

I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring Jon Lavin for the work he has done for the older adults of suburban Cook County. I am confident that Jon will continue to put his passion and his experience to use in advocating for older Americans and their families. I thank him for his invaluable service and wish him the best of everything in his future endeavors.

H.R. 1551, THE ORRIN G. HATCH-BOB GOODLATTE MUSIC MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2018

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, the House of Representatives voted to send legislation to the President to bring early 20th Century music laws for the analog era into the 21st Century digital era. This legislation is the culmination of years of effort by industry stakeholders, Members of the House and Senate, public interest groups, and others.

Several years ago, I launched a comprehensive review of our nation's copyright laws. The House Judiciary Committee held dozens of hearings, heard from over a hundred witnesses, and traveled to multiple cities across the country to hear directly from stakeholders who use these laws. This review provided the foundation upon which several bills to reform our copyrights laws were constructed. During the course of this review, we learned that our music licensing laws were broken. The laws were no longer working as intended for songwriters, artists and creators, or for the companies that deliver the music in innovative ways to consumers.

After this review, I challenged the industry to put their differences aside and to come together to create a unified reform bill, and to their credit, they delivered. This legislation has the support of songwriters, musical works copyright owners, digital music providers, individual artists, sound recording copyright owners, artist guilds, and performing rights organizations.

The reasons for such widespread support are clear. This legislation boosts payments for copyright owners and artists while reducing litigation costs for all parties; streamlines rights clearance for music delivery services; allows songwriters to help determine how their royalties are collected and allocated; protects the works of recording artists who created pre-1972 recordings; ensures sound engineers, mixers, and producers get paid; and gives the public more access to more music. This legislation will truly usher in a new era for music creators, distributors and consumers.

However, today, I want to take a minute to thank and highlight the work of several of my colleagues who were indispensable leaders in making this new era possible. Big pieces of

legislation can come together only through the efforts of many who are willing to invest their time to make change happen.

First, I want to thank Representatives DOUG COLLINS and HAKEEM JEFFRIES. They were the leaders who took a very fractured music community, got their hands dirty, and forged the consensus and framework for reforming the Section 115 mechanical license for musical works. For a hundred years, our mechanical licensing laws were based on the technology of the piano roll. Through the diligent work of these Members, it will now reflect the digital realities of the 21st Century.

In addition, I would like to thank IP Subcommittee Chairman DARRELL ISSA and Full Committee Ranking Member JERRY NADLER for their leadership on behalf of sound recording artists to secure protection for artists who recorded works before 1972. For decades, some artists could receive compensation for their recordings while others could not, based solely on an arbitrary date. That was not fair. We have now fixed that thanks to the leadership of these Members.

I would also like to thank Representatives JOE CROWLEY and TOM ROONEY for their leadership on behalf of producers, mixers, and sound engineers. Thanks to their hard work, these technical artists will also receive compensation for their contributions to musical works.

I would like to thank Ranking Member Conyers for his leadership on these issues over many years, and for his willingness to partner with me in orchestrating the Committee's multi-year Copyright Review. And I want to thank Ranking Member NADLER for his work on all of these issues and for his willingness to partner with me in combining all of these important pieces—and others—together into a comprehensive and consensus music licensing reform package that is now awaiting the President's signature.

Additionally, I would like to thank Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman CHUCK GRASSLEY, Ranking Member DIANNE FEINSTEIN, and Senator ORRIN HATCH for shepherding the legislation through the Senate. I appreciate their leadership and willingness to work across chambers and across party lines.

Of course, I, and all the Members who led this effort, owe a debt of gratitude to our staffs. The staff of the House Judiciary Committee, both Majority and Minority, and the personal staffs of the Members, worked overtime for days, weeks, months and years to help us achieve this victory. We could not have done this without them.

The result of all this work by Members, staff, and stakeholders from every corner is nothing less than a new era for music. One that continues our nation's long commitment to incentivize creators and distributors to bring us the sound tracks of our lives.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT SISSON

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Robert "Bob" Sisson on his retirement. Since 1991, Bob Sisson has served as the City Manager for the City of Fairfax. This

has given him the distinction of being one of the longest-serving local government administrators in the D.C. region.

Bob began his career in local government in 1974 as an administrative assistant to the city manager of Overland Park, Oklahoma. He would go on to be assistant city manager in two additional communities in Oklahoma, Norman and Stillwater, before becoming the city manager of Grandview, Missouri, a suburban community of 28,000 located in the Kansas City metropolitan area. Bob served as Grandview city manager for four years before being selected in a nationwide search to take the helm of the City of Fairfax.

Under Bob's leadership, the City of Fairfax has received numerous accolades, including being consistently ranked among the Top 10 places in the country in which to live, reaching as high as No. 3 in *Forbes Magazine* in 2009. Most recently, U.S. News and World Report rated the City of Fairfax the sixth-healthiest community in the nation. Criteria for this rating included such categories as residents' income, education, life span, access to critical services and proximity to parks.

I was proud to work with Bob on many major projects in the region, including the construction of the City of Fairfax Regional Library and the relocation of the Lamb Center for homeless individuals. As someone who also began their public service career in local government, I have always held a special appreciation for those who choose to dedicate their life to public service at the local level. I have often said that local government is where the rubber meets the road: accountability is absolute and everyone knows where you live and has your phone number. At the local level, the citizens we serve aren't concerned with political ideologies or scoring points for your respective party. They expect you to deliver concrete results and will hold you to account should you fail to do so. The pothole was either fixed or it wasn't—and if it wasn't, the community will know who didn't get the job done.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Bob Sisson on his retirement and in thanking him for his many decades of service to his communities, both in Northern Virginia and throughout the United States. Though he may be officially retiring from public service, I have no doubt that he will continue to stay involved on the issues that are important to him. I wish him all of the best in his future endeavors.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF YOUTH SPORTS 2018 STRIVE AWARD WINNER RECOGNITION

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues, Representatives KIND, DAVIS, H. JOHNSON, WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and I, as co-chairs and members of the Congressional Caucus on Youth Sports, would like to honor Triangle Volleyball Club of Morrisville, North Carolina for being the winner of the 2018 S.T.R.I.V.E. (Sports Teach Respect, Initiative, Values and Excellence) Organization of the Year Award.

Each year, the National Council of Youth Sports (NCYS) recognizes five finalist organi-

zations that strongly meet the "kids first" approach, evidenced by their implementation of best practices and policies that protect kids and promote safety. The award, sponsored by AIG, is presented to the organization that the voters feel most exhibits heartfelt passion and shows a committed spirit to helping kids succeed in sports, while maintaining a commitment to safety procedures. This year, Triangle Volleyball Club was selected from four other excellent finalists: Baltimore SquashWise of Baltimore, Maryland; O'Fallon Little Panthers of O'Fallon, Illinois; Police Athletic League of Buffalo, New York; and Snider Youth Hockey of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Comprised of the who's who in the youth sports industry, NCYS was founded in 1979, and its membership represents more than 200 organizations and corporations serving over 60 million registered participants in organized youth sports programs. NCYS is the largest known organization in America representing the youth sports industry, and its members include organizations such as Little League Baseball, American Youth Soccer Organization, Jewish Community Centers Association of North America, YMCA of America, Pop Warner, and Special Olympics North America.

Triangle Volleyball Club is being recognized for how it places the health and safety of their athletes as their top priority while also competing at the very highest level of girls' junior club volleyball. Furthermore, Triangle Volleyball Club deserves this distinction for its commitment to educate the whole person through excellence in the sport of volleyball and the inclusion of service projects working with the disabled (veterans and young people) through sitting volleyball and leadership in adaptive sitting volleyball development and outreach.

Triangle Volleyball Club is just one example of many great youth sports organizations in this country, and we likewise commend all those that work and volunteer to allow the youth this Nation to gain the benefits of youth sports participation and helping to prepare our next generation of leaders.

We commend Triangle Volleyball Club for this wonderful achievement, and the great work they are doing.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COMMANDER JERRY McNEW, U.S. NAVY

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding work of Lieutenant Commander Jerry McNew.

McNew joined the United States Navy in 1989, entering Basic Training at the Naval Station in Chicago, Illinois. He later attended Tactical Training Center Atlantic, located in Dam Neck, Virginia, graduating with honors as an Operations Specialist Seaman.

Spanning three decades, McNew's career has taken him on eighteen deployments, thirteen of those in combat missions. His dossier reads like something out of a Tom Clancy novel. From weapons tactics to Naval Gunfire Liaison Officer, to Civil Affairs, Command Staff, Air Intercept Controller Supervisor, Battle Watch Captain, Surface Warfare Officer,

Fleet Marine Force Combat Officer, and many more titles, it is safe to say, LCDR McNew is an expert in Naval combat operations, quite possibly all over the world.

It is no surprise that McNew advanced ranks from E-1 to E-8 to O-4 between 1989 and 2015. He took part in 27 Operations, including Hurricanes Andrew and Katrina, Desert Fox, Desert Shield, and Desert Storm, Operations Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom, as well as the Piracy Patrols in Somalia, among many others.

His exemplary leadership, throughout the nearly 30 years of Naval service, has contributed greatly to the security of the United States, and our global community, as well as his fellow military brothers and sisters. It is an honor to recognize Lieutenant Commander Jerry McNew upon the occasion of his U.S. Navy retirement.

**HONORING MICHAEL CIAFARDONI
OF THE 803RD TANK DESTROYER
BATTALION**

HON. DOUG LaMALFA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the passing of a great man from California's first district, Michael Ciafardoni, Sr., who died at the age of 94. Born in Nepezzano, Italy, Michael immigrated to America in 1939 and was soon called upon just a few years later to serve his new country in the Second World War.

Although he was not yet a United States citizen, he fulfilled his civic duty nonetheless and served in the U.S. Army in WWII as a member of the 803rd Tank Destroyer Battalion, Recon Company, as a heavy machine gunner. He was the last surviving member of his company. Along the way, Michael experienced all that the European Theatre had to offer. He earned five bronze battle stars for fighting in some of the most consequential battles of the war, including the Normandy Invasion and the Battle of the Bulge.

Despite this impressive record, Michael insisted his proudest wartime experience was not any of those major engagements, but rather, the liberation of a small town in Czechoslovakia near the end of the war. Jewish prisoners were being held in the town of Volary, where they awaited transfer to the Nazi concentration camp. Fortunately, Michael and his company got there first—and they liberated them. To the people of Volary, these men were heroes.

When the 803rd was leaving town a few days later, they were ambushed by German soldiers. Private Charles Havlat, riding in the tank directly in front of Michael, was caught in the crossfire. The Germans unconditionally surrendered merely hours later. Charles was the last soldier killed in Europe. To this day, the town holds an annual celebration to pay tribute to the American soldiers who risked their lives to free them, and to Charles Havlat, who made the ultimate sacrifice.

I'm told that Michael's one wish was to be honored for his wartime service in Europe. That is a wish that I could not be happier to fulfill right here on the House floor in the United States Capitol. Amazingly, Michael was

a war hero for a country that he wasn't even yet a citizen of. Thankfully, that didn't last long. In October of 1946, he earned U.S. citizenship for his exemplary service to his new country—his new home.

In 1960, he and his wife Micki moved to Southern California, before relocating to North San Juan in 1983 to be closer to their children and grandchildren.

Like any true American, Michael was immensely proud to be here and ready to fight for his country without hesitation. Many people today could learn a lot from a guy like Michael. Before he died, he asked to see his Certificate of Naturalization, which brought a proud smile to his face.

The simple fact is, Michael was as American as any among us, and all who knew him were better off for it. He truly lived a life worth living and he made his family and his country proud. May he rest in peace. God Bless.

**RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF TYSONS CORNER CENTER**

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 50th anniversary of Tysons Corner Center and to celebrate the opening of a new art exhibit which will showcase the journey this location has experienced over the last half-century. Truly, no area in the 11th Congressional District or in the Commonwealth of Virginia has had a more transformative impact on the regional or statewide economy than Tysons.

In the 1950's, Tysons Corner consisted of a single intersection and was surrounded by a few small stores and a fruit stand operated by William Tyson, for whom the area is named. It was a rural area; in fact, Fairfax County was considered the dairy capital of the Commonwealth of Virginia. However, this bucolic life was soon to be transformed when in 1962, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors approved the construction of a new shopping center originally called Tysons Corner Shopping Center. At the time of its opening, Tysons Corner Center was the largest enclosed mall in the world, and to this day, remains the largest shopping mall in Virginia and in the Baltimore-Washington area. Today, Tysons Corner Center is one of the 10 largest malls in the United States and consists of more than 2.1 million square feet, 16 movie screens, and more than 300 retail stores, eateries, and restaurants. Even the most optimistic among us could not have foreseen what that decision would bring to Tysons, to Fairfax County and to Northern Virginia as a whole. It was the beginning of Tysons' transformation into the thriving urban center that it is today. Tysons has grown to become the economic engine of Fairfax County and by extension, of the entire state.

This transformation continues through to today and will continue for decades into the future. Following the success of Tysons Corner Center, the area surrounding the mall began attracting large businesses and employers. Sadly, the infrastructure and overall planning to manage this unprecedented growth lagged far behind. In 2011, there were

105,000 jobs in Tysons, but only 17,000 residents.

Recognizing the tremendous growth that was underway and the challenges it created, I convened a task force as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors to develop a plan to harness that transformative energy and direct it towards the creation of a new, transit-oriented development and thriving urban community. The Comprehensive Plan that we developed calls for 200,000 jobs and 100,000 permanent residents and a key element of this plan was the creation of the Silver Line, which would finally deliver a permanent rail link between our area's major international airport and downtown Washington, D.C. Phase 1 of this project was completed in 2014 and the ribbon-cutting ceremony was held at the new Metro station for Tysons Corner Center.

Another focus of the Tysons plan, in addition to encouraging transit-oriented development, was a renewed focus on public art in this urban space. I am therefore very pleased that Tysons Corner Center has elected to install an art exhibit featuring local artists to celebrate this golden anniversary. The work begun by Tysons Corner Center fifty years ago continues to this day and I trust that this location will remain a fixture of Fairfax County and of Northern Virginia for another half-century.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in once again congratulating Tysons Corner Center on its 50th anniversary and in extending my thanks to those visionaries, developers, planners, and their partners in the public and private sectors who have worked so diligently to make the success of the last fifty years possible. I also wish to thank the Macerich Corporation and the Lerner Group, who have been steadfast and invaluable partners throughout the development process. I thank them for their immense contributions to our community and wish them continued success.

**IN RECOGNITION OF ACI
SOLUTIONS**

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in commendation of ACI Solutions on their recognition as a 2018 Top 100 Minority Business Enterprise by the Capital Region Minority Supplier Development Council. ACI Solutions is a managed IT services provider and network security firm with a US headquarters based in Arlington, Virginia.

The Top 100 MBE awards recognize the accomplishments of minority entrepreneurs in the Capital Region that energize the region's economy through innovation and commitment. I am pleased to congratulate ACI Solutions CEO Nasra Abdi and her team on their receipt of this award and applaud them in their efforts as leaders in cyber security services, business IT support, managed services and unified communications.

This award demonstrates ACI Solutions' dedication to excellence in IT services, and also recognizes the efforts of the ACI team in pursuing the American dream. They have worked hard, overcome obstacles and stand

today as fixtures in the Capital Area for making important contributions to commerce and serving their clients well.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing ACI Solutions' dedicated efforts as a Minority Business Enterprise, and their excellence in their field. An admirable example of leadership and devotion, and an outstanding cornerstone of our community, I commend ACI Solutions on their accomplishments and wish them further success as they continue to serve our area. On behalf of America's First District, we say congratulations.

RECOGNIZING STATE
REPRESENTATIVE TIM BROWN

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of a good friend, and tremendous public servant, State Representative Tim Brown, who was severely injured in a recent motorcycle crash.

I had the pleasure of getting to know Doc Brown, a retired emergency room physician, during our time in the Indiana General Assembly.

I know firsthand that Doc Brown is a wise and humble man with a great sense of humor and the common sense to never take himself, or his important work, too seriously.

He's represented Hoosiers in the House since 1994 and, as Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, he is a big reason why our state's fiscal health has become a model for the rest of the country.

But more than that, Doc Brown is good man who has dedicated his life to serving his fellow Hoosiers with kindness and compassion.

My family and I, along with all Hoosiers, continue to keep Doc Brown in our prayers and wish him a safe and speedy recovery.

RECOGNIZING THE BURKE CENTRE
CONSERVANCY BOARD OF
TRUSTEES 500TH MEETING

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Burke Centre Conservancy Board of Trustees on the occasion of their 500th meeting. Incorporated in June 1976, the Burke Centre Conservancy manages this planned community of 5,862 residences divided into five neighborhoods of 65 clusters. All told, Burke Centre sits on approximately 1,700 acres and includes more than 30 miles of paths, 6 ponds and one lake, 6 community centers, 5 pools, tennis courts, and a baseball field. There is truly something for everyone at Burke Centre. I always look forward to attending the premier Burke Centre event—the annual Burke Centre Festival—which is hosted by the Conservancy and celebrated its 40th anniversary last year.

The history of Burke Centre can be traced back to the 1700's. It has fallen to the leadership of the Board of Trustees to balance this

rich history with the development of a thriving community, always taking into consideration environmental preservation and enhanced amenities for Burke Centre residents. As someone who got his start in public service as president of a local civic association, I can attest to the importance of getting involved and also to the responsibility that is borne by the association's leadership to guide the community and ensure that all decisions are in the best interest of those affected and the community as a whole. I commend the Burke Centre Conservancy Board of Trustees for carrying out their mission with integrity and transparency.

I am honored to include in the RECORD the names of the Executive Director of the Burke Centre Conservancy and the members of the Board of Trustees who will preside over this historic meeting:

Conservancy Executive Director: Patrick Gloyd; President: Marc Flaster (Commons Trustee); Vice-President: Brian Engler (At-Large Trustee); Secretary: Lee Schmidt (Ponds Trustee); Treasurer: Brenda Trask (Woods Trustee); John Mills-Hearne (Landings Trustee); Karen Anthony (Oaks Trustee); Phil Pool (At-Large Trustee).

In Fairfax County and in Northern Virginia as a whole, we are fortunate to have a strong tradition of civic engagement. The membership of the Burke Centre Conservancy Board of Trustees is a shining example of that tradition. They are also proof that this tradition is especially strong in Burke Centre.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Burke Centre Conservancy Board of Trustees for their ongoing dedication to the betterment of their community. This milestone being celebrated is a direct result of that dedication and I have no doubt that this commitment will continue. I thank them for their service to their community and wish them and Burke Centre continued success.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND
ACHIEVEMENTS OF GUIDO HIBDON

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the magnificent life of Guido Hibdon, who was a resident of Sunrise Beach, Missouri, legendary fisherman and a great friend to many.

Guido was born a third-generation angler on July 10, 1946. He loved fishing so much that at the age of 13 he began guiding on the Lake of the Ozarks in Missouri. His storied career began when a Bassmasters tournament was scheduled to be held on the Lake of the Ozarks in 1980. His family and friends convinced Guido to take a shot at testing his skills against the tournament professionals, including legends Roland Martin, Jimmy Houston and Rick Clunn. This led to the start of friendships with all these men, and a career of tournament fishing that lasted over three decades, which included winning numerous championships.

Guido valued his family above all else. His wife Stella, daughter Dotty and two sons, Chuck and Dion, along with the whole ex-

tended family, were always his most faithful cheerleaders. Guido's example inspired many to take up the sport of fishing, including his son Dion, who won the Bassmasters Classic in 1997. This made the pair the only father and son to win this tournament and earned them the title, "The First Family of Bass Fishing."

In 2001, Guido was inducted into the Bass Fishing Hall of Fame, a fitting honor to a tremendous man. His passion for fishing and being on the water never faded, even after an illness forced him into retirement in 2015.

Guido exemplified the finest qualities that a person could possess. His hard work and dedication to everything he held dear, and his treatment of others was indeed commendable. His daughter Dotty said it best, "To say that he was a kind and generous man would be an understatement. He was humble and gentle with all, but still very stern and deep in treating people with dignity and respect. No matter who you were or where you came from, he gave you his time and attention."

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have known Guido as a friend and fellow angler. I join his family, friends and the entire bass fishing community in grieving his loss and honoring his lifetime of accomplishments and service to bass fishermen everywhere.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT B. PRESLEY

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to former California State Senator and Riverside County icon Robert B. Presley, who passed away on Saturday, September 22, 2018. Bob served the people of California and Riverside County in many ways throughout his life and he will be deeply missed.

Bob was born in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, to Doyle and Ann Presley, on December 4, 1924. He joined the U.S. Army at the age of 18 and was awarded the Bronze Star for heroic achievement in action while serving with the Fifth Army in Italy during World War II. After attending college at Riverside Community College and the University of California, Riverside, Bob joined the Riverside County Sheriff's Department, where he would have a 24-year career. Early in his career at the Sheriff's Department, Presley was known as Riverside County's top homicide investigator. In the second half of his career with the department, Bob served as Riverside County Undersheriff to long-time Sheriff Ben Clark.

Following his law enforcement career, Bob entered the world of politics and was elected to the State Senate in 1974, where he served as a Democrat representing both Riverside and San Bernardino Counties until 1994. Over the years, Bob worked on many different pieces of legislation and helped fund a number of important programs and projects as the Chairman of the California Senate Appropriations Committee. Bob was an especially impactful advocate for the environment, prison expansion and reform, and victims of domestic violence. Thanks to Bob's efforts, the state established the first shelters to protect battered women and children. After retiring from the

legislature, Bob was appointed to serve as Chair of the State Parole Board by Republican Governor Pete Wilson and, later, to serve as Secretary of Youth and Adult Corrections by Democratic Governor Gray Davis.

Senator Presley was predeceased by his first wife, Ahni Ratliff Presley. He is survived by his second wife, Susan Foreman Presley; his three adult children; Robert Presley, Jr., Donna Danielson, and Marilyn Raphael; and numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren. I want to extend my heartfelt condolences to the Presley family, his friends, and everyone who had the pleasure of knowing him. Although Bob may be gone, the many life-changing contributions he made in Riverside County will have a lasting impact.

HONORING THE YALE UNIVERSITY BANDS ON ITS CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, It gives me great pleasure to rise today to extend my sincere congratulations to the Yale University Bands—the first American University Band to present a concert tour abroad in 1959—as it celebrates its centennial anniversary.

The activities that led to the birth of the Yale University Band were organized by Joseph R. Ellis in 1918 when he was a lieutenant in the United States Army assigned to the Yale Student Army Training Corps. Prior to being stationed in New Haven, he had been posted in Washington, D.C. where his work was to secure players and leaders for bands throughout the training camps of the country. Upon his arrival at Yale, he started planning the formation of a band. Finding no funds available, Lieutenant Ellis took up a collection from the military units which were then in training. He secured the services of a professional coach, Charles F. Smith, a New Haven musician who had considerable band experience, a few instruments were purchased, and musical talent was recruited from the S.A.T.C. (Student Army Training Corps). This first Yale band provided music for military formations until the Corps was demobilized in December 1918, after the Armistice. The instruments were turned over to the University with the hope that they would provide the nucleus for a student band in the future.

Lieutenant Ellis remained at Yale and went on to become Registrar of Freshmen. On October 1, 1919, he and Charles Smith succeeded in persuading twenty students to form the Yale Band which played at some of the minor football games that fall. It was from those twenty students a century ago that the Yale Bands have expanded to include the Yale Jazz Ensemble, the Yale Precision Marching Band, and the Yale Concert Band—producing a combined thirty national and international concert tours.

In its one hundred years, the Yale Bands has been served by just six directors: Charles Smith, Alvin Etler, Keith L. Wilson, Keith Brion, Richard Thurston, and today's director, Thomas C. Duffy who has held the position for thirty-seven years.

The Yale Bands have amassed an impressive record of musical commissions, world

premieres, and service to civic, academic and national events, all combined with a commitment to music as a social force. Yale Bands have produced benefit concerts to raise relief money in response to natural disasters, have performed in a Syrian refugee camp in Athens, Greece, and regularly directs the talents of its members in performances that support philanthropic, educational, and social programs.

For its formative place in the development of the 20th-century American Wind Band, for its pioneering work with the commissioning of new band works from important composers, for its long-standing commitment to music as a social force and its impact on the local New Haven community and those around the world, I am proud to stand today to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the Yale University Bands as it celebrates its 100th anniversary. I wish them all the best for another century of fine performances, artistic leadership, and service through music.

RECOGNIZING WESTMINSTER AT LAKE RIDGE ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Westminster at Lake Ridge on its 25th anniversary and to commend the staff, residents, and volunteers for their commitment to the community and their dedication to the well-being of all who call Westminster home.

Although we are celebrating Westminster at Lake Ridge's Silver Anniversary, the origins of this exceptional community date back more than 40 years to 1977, when the late Myles Golbranson began his efforts to establish a Presbyterian-sponsored life-care retirement community in Northern Virginia. For the next 8 years, he led an Ad Hoc Committee to assist with exploring options. In 1985, it appeared that the unwavering efforts to establish a retirement community were within reach when Mr. S. Parker Oliphant offered to donate a 37-acre parcel of land located in Centreville, VA. Project design and site-analysis began, as did fundraising efforts for pre-construction expenses. In 1988, the project was suddenly derailed due to water management and zoning complications. Later that year, an alternate 62-acre site was identified in Lake Ridge, VA. In 1993, Westminster at Lake Ridge opened its doors, finally fulfilling Myles Golbranson's dream.

In the last 25 years, Westminster at Lake Ridge has grown significantly and is now home to approximately 400 residents. Amenities and services are available to suit the interests of the residents—whether it is joining a book club, participating in fitness classes, fishing in one of the two ponds, or strolling through the wooded trails to the Occoquan River. Residents are also actively engaged in the community—volunteering with local schools, hospitals, and at civic and cultural events. The Flying Fingers, a group of residents who knit and crochet items, has created countless articles of clothing and blankets for many charities including Ellie's Hats, which provides the handmade caps to children who

have lost their hair due to chemotherapy treatments.

The activities, amenities and health services provided by Westminster at Lake Ridge are guided by its mission: to provide a continuum of care to older adults that fosters independence, dignity, and self-determination. These core values have been central to every expansion of activities and health care services including the Memory Support Neighborhoods for those who suffer from Alzheimer's disease or other forms of dementia. To ensure the safety of those suffering from debilitating memory issues, Westminster at Lake Ridge has partnered with the Prince William County Sheriff's Office on Project Lifesaver—a GPS program that can instantly locate a participating resident who may have wandered into an unsafe environment.

In 2015, in recognition of its exceptional care and opportunities for older adults, Westminster at Lake Ridge was fully accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities—Continuing Care Accrediting Commission (CARF-CCAC.) In the United States, fewer than 10 percent of all continuing care retirement communities have received this accreditation, which is granted only after successfully completing an in-depth, multi-day audit by CARF-CCAC. In addition, Westminster at Lake Ridge has received the highest rating possible, a 5-star overall rating from Medicare.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent this extraordinary facility. Westminster at Lake Ridge provides an exceptional quality of life for active retirees, as well as more intensive compassionate care when needed. I thank the staff and volunteers for their dedication to their mission and commend them as well as the hundreds of residents for their service. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Westminster at Lake Ridge on its 25th anniversary and in wishing all who live and work in this vibrant community continued success.

IN CELEBRATION OF TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to wish all people celebrating Taiwan's National Day, a Happy Double Ten Day.

The United States and Taiwan are united in common interests and commitment to freedom and democracy. The Taiwanese people share our values of human rights, adherence to the rule of law, and freedom of speech. Taiwan is a shining example of democracy, exemplified by multiple peaceful transfers of power following free elections.

In addition to our close cultural and political partnership, the United States and Taiwan also share a booming economic partnership. Bilateral trade between our countries surpassed \$86 billion in 2017, making Taiwan the United States' 11th largest trading partner. Taiwan is also a partner with the United States in our resolute efforts to combat global terrorism. For example, its contribution to the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS will assist refugees as they return to their homes and begin rebuilding their communities.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recommitting ourselves to the U.S.-Taiwan relationship, and in wishing Taiwan a Happy Double Ten Day.

IN MEMORY OF KYLE ALAN
ZIEGLER

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the following thoughtful obituary was published on September 26, 2018:

Kyle Alan Ziegler, age 59, went home to be with his Lord and Savior on Sept. 26th 2018 after a recent diagnosis of brain cancer. He was born in Oberlin on Sept. 18, 1959 to Lyle and Dorothy (Upton) Ziegler and was a life-long resident of Wellington.

Kyle graduated from Wellington High School in 1978 and attended Geneva College in Pennsylvania. He was a self-employed businessman, operating Ziegler Lawn Care, which he began as a teenager until his diagnosis. He also had other business ventures including a partnership in Wellington Self Storage and remodeling houses with his son Josh.

On Dec. 4 1982 Kyle married Jean Liles at Church of the Open Door in Elyria, Ohio. Together they raised their children. He was a faithful and loving husband, father, grandfather, and a good friend to many. Kyle enjoyed traveling, especially hiking and exploring in the western United States. He served God in many area churches over the years, and spent his last days sharing Jesus out on the porch with every visitor.

He is survived by his loving wife of 35 years, Jean; son Daniel Ziegler (Rae-Lynn); son Joshua Ziegler; daughter Kylee Bogner (Kenneth); grandson Emmerich Bogner; granddaughter due in November; brother Mark Ziegler (Joyce); sister Marlene Hamilton (David) and several nieces & nephews.

Preceded in death by his father Lyle Ziegler, mother Dorothy Upton Ziegler Tegmeyer, and grandson Daniel Alan Ziegler Jr.

RECOGNIZING THE PASADENA
LIVESTOCK SHOW AND RODEO
VETERAN'S COMMITTEE

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Pasadena Livestock Show and Rodeo Veteran's Committee in celebration of Military Appreciation Night.

The Pasadena Livestock show and rodeo, located in Pasadena, Texas has been entertaining the citizens of Pasadena and surrounding cities since 1949 with Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) rodeo action; livestock and home economics competitions; and concerts. One of the main goals of the Rodeo is awarding scholarships to students from Pasadena, Deer Park, La Porte, and Clear Creek school districts.

Since its inception in 2012, the Veteran's Committee has continually recognized local veterans and provided veterans and their families an opportunity to become more involved in

the Rodeo. Thanks to the work of the Veteran's Committee, veterans are picked up from the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center in Houston and provided a police escort to the rodeo grounds. At the rodeo veterans receive: a barbeque dinner, special tour of the agricultural barn, recognition during the rodeo performance, and VIP seating. Active Duty military personnel are also recognized on Military Appreciation Night.

In 2014, the Rodeo and Veteran's Committee started a new tradition when Army recruits received their Oath of Enlistment on the arena floor in front of the rodeo audience. This event has grown into a joint branch swearing in ceremony. Members of the Veteran's Committee and Active Duty military personnel join the recruits on the floor establishing a past, present, and future military presence during the ceremony.

Mr. Speaker, as a former guardsman and Air Force officer, and as the father of a highly-decorated Navy SEAL, it is a tremendous honor and privilege to be asked to administer the Oath of Enlistment to these young men and women on Saturday, September 29th.

This year the Rodeo is honoring heroes who were declared Missing in Action (M.I.A.). America must never forget these service members and their families.

May God richly bless our Nation's veterans for their sacrifice. May He continue to protect those who are serving and those who will be serving. My prayers are also with the families of those who lost love ones and those who are Missing in Action.

INNOVATIONS IN MENTORING,
TRAINING, AND APPRENTICESHIP ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ROGER W. MARSHALL

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5509, Innovations in Mentoring, Training and Apprenticeships Act, sponsored by my friend, Leader KEVIN MCCARTHY. With the creation of three competitive STEM grants under the National Science Foundation, this bipartisan bill will help meet the future workforce demands in STEM occupations and encourage innovative partnerships between academic institutions and local STEM employers.

In February, Dr. John Bardo, President of Wichita State University, testified at a Science, Space and Technology hearing on STEM education and careers. His testimony and examples of Wichita State's applied learning opportunities helped develop the grant program for undergraduate STEM students at 4-year universities. These opportunities provide students a chance to work for employers in their areas of interest and allow students to gain skills that better prepare them to make substantial contributions to their employers when they graduate.

We have an opportunity to pave a path to success and meet the needs of our growing technical workforce in order to stay globally competitive. This bill is a great step in that direction. I'm proud to support this legislation and urge my colleagues to do the same.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 6157,
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AP-
PROPRIATIONS ACT, 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2018

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I will vote in support of the Conference Report for H.R. 6157, the Department of Defense and Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Act of 2019 and Continuing Appropriations Act of 2019.

The legislation includes several provisions that I strongly support, including giving servicemen and women a well-deserved raise of 2.6 percent. Those who serve in uniform have made extraordinary sacrifices for our country and have earned and deserve a pay raise. The legislation also prohibits the use of funds in Syria and Iraq in contravention of the War Powers Resolution. As a co-equal branch of the federal government, the president must come to Congress to seek authorization for the use of military force. It also includes funding for Ukraine and Eastern Europe security initiatives to counter Russia's heightened military provocations and annexation of Crimea.

Despite these vital provisions, I have concerns with a number of provisions included in the Conference Report. This legislation authorizes more than \$606.5 billion for the Department of Defense, including \$67.8 billion to the Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) fund, an account which is not counted in the budget and is not paid for. It adds to the deficit and is used as a slush fund by the Pentagon.

Unlike every other federal agency, the Department of Defense (DOD) has yet to complete a financial audit; taxpayers deserve to know how the biggest bureaucracy in the federal government spends their money.

Additionally, the bill prohibits the closing of Guantanamo Bay, which costs more than \$100 million each year to house 41 prisoners and has been used as a top recruiting tool by terrorists. The bottom line is that the prison has been a black eye for the United States, has eroded relationships with our allies, undermined U.S. missions abroad, and put U.S. citizens and our troops at risk of retaliation.

RECOGNIZING THE NORTHERN VIR-
GINIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
2018 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE
AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the recipients of the 3rd Annual Distinguished Service Awards and to commend the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce for continuing to sponsor these awards. Celebrating the achievements of our veterans is important because our veterans in Northern Virginia and throughout our country have sacrificed so much for our community and our nation. It is our duty to support those who have served in uniform and to honor and uphold the

sacred agreement between our society and our veterans. I am honored to include in the RECORD the following names of the 2018 Distinguished Service award recipients:

Veteran Business Mentorship Award: Arcadia Center for Sustainable Food and Agriculture: Arcadia Center for Sustainable Food & Agriculture demonstrates the importance of creating more equitable and sustainable local food systems for our community. Since 2010, Arcadia has provided underserved communities with access to healthy, affordable food regardless of where they live or how much they earn. In particular I would like to commend the Veteran's Farmer Program which gives our nation's heroes the opportunity to seek meaningful careers after they complete their service. With their Veteran Farmer Reserve Program, the Fellowship Program, and Veteran Farmer Land Access, Arcadia not only supports our nation's veterans but also reinvigorates the farm sector with skilled new growers, eager to begin their next phase in life.

Meritorious Veteran Owned Business (Emerging): Honor Brewing Company: Honor Brewing Company commits itself to honoring our nation's heroes accompanied with the simple enjoyment of fine craft beer. Along with their wonderful selection such as Honor Warrior IPA, Cherry Wheat, and the Maple Porter, Honor Brewing Company is committed to giving back to our veterans, those who have been wounded, and their families not only financially but with their personal time as well. Their belief of listening and honoring the stories of our nation's heroes who have made the ultimate sacrifice stands as evidence of their commitment to America's finest.

Meritorious Veteran Owned Business (Established): ThunderCat Technology: ThunderCat Technology provides federal and commercial customers with strategies for data storage, networking and security applications. With their vision of being a premier trusted provider of Information Technology products, along with their special approach of evaluating consumers specific and unique needs, ThunderCat Technology is a confirmation that veteran owned businesses are trusted sources of quality service. ThunderCat Technology's steadfast involvement in philanthropic organizations that support both wounded warriors and other veteran owned small businesses speaks volumes of their commitment to our community's veterans.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking these incredible organizations and in congratulating them on being honored as a 2018 Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce Distinguished Service Award recipient. Civic engagement is the foundation of a healthy community, and Fairfax County residents enjoy an exceptional quality of life due in part to the efforts of these individuals. The contributions and leadership of these honorees have been a great benefit to our community and truly merit our highest praise.

RISE IN DRUG PRICES

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today regarding the alarm-

ing rise in prescription drug costs in this country.

Earlier this year, the President claimed that drug companies would be announcing "massive" voluntary drug price cuts.

In fact, an Associated Press analysis of brand-name prescription drug prices shows it's been business as usual for drugmakers, with far more price hikes than cuts. The AP found that over the first seven months of the year, there were 96 price hikes for every price cut.

As the AP said in its story, drug pricing is far from transparent. Manufacturers typically set high list prices but then negotiate rebates and discounts with prescription benefit managers, to get preferential insurance coverage for their products.

Many consumers never see the list price, though rising drug prices generally put pressure on insurers to raise rates. Patients with high deductible or no insurance often get stuck being charged the full list price.

In addition, the Republican tax bill is being used by the big pharmaceutical companies to buy back shares in its companies to increase its stock prices. The tax bill is increasing our government debt, taking money from all Americans in order to enrich hedge funds, other Wall Street investors and top drug company executives, but not helping the patients that depend on those drugs.

We need to implement changes that will bring down drug prices.

One way is that prescription drugs that meet a test for an unconscionable price increase will be subject to new investigative and enforcement action by a new "price gouging" enforcement.

National spending on prescription drugs is on the rise. Prescription drug prices increased an average of 12.6 percent in 2014 and 10 percent in 2015. In 2015, 16.7 percent of health care spending in the U.S. went to prescription drugs.

The government needs to be given the authority to negotiate drug prices. Medicare is not allowed to negotiate with drug companies about their product. The government is the largest buyer of most products and the General Services Administration currently negotiates whenever the government is buying a product and puts it on the schedule for all government procurement officers to use. But not prescription drugs. This is a huge giveaway for the drug industry and that needs to end.

Now is not the time to line the pockets of pharmaceutical CEOs while Americans are suffering from high prescription drug costs. It is time to be innovative with our health care and support the working men and women who need the help to live a healthy life.

MALNUTRITION AWARENESS WEEK RECOGNITION

HON. LYNN JENKINS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of this week as Malnutrition Awareness Week.

Malnutrition Awareness Week is a multi-organizational, multi-pronged campaign created by the American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition. This campaign seeks to edu-

cate healthcare professionals to identify and treat for malnutrition earlier. It seeks to educate consumers and patients to discuss their nutrition status with health care professionals and increase awareness of nutrition's role on patient recovery.

Every 60 seconds, 10 hospitalized patients with malnutrition go undiagnosed, and many of these patients are older adults. Yet, there are common-sense solutions that can close this care gap.

We cannot solve what we do not first measure. Unfortunately, we do not truly know the full extent of the malnutrition problem plaguing our senior population. This is because screening measures for malnutrition are not a part of our national health surveys and malnutrition is not included in the national health indicators and goals for older Americans that help shape public health programs and guide healthcare professionals. I therefore call on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to routinely include malnutrition screening measures in national health surveys of older adults and include malnutrition among national key health indicators and Healthy People 2030 goals for older adults.

We cannot expect older adults and their families to take steps to address malnutrition if we do not give guidance on identification of and interventions for the problem. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and U.S. Department of Agriculture develop new national dietary guidelines every five years, but the guidelines have never addressed the issue of older adult malnutrition. I therefore urge HHS and USDA to include dietary guidance for the prevention and treatment of older adult malnutrition and the closely aligned problem of age-related sarcopenia, the loss of strength and muscle, in the 2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

We cannot advance malnutrition care and promote improved patient recovery if we do not align the identification of and interventions for malnutrition with health care quality incentive programs. Malnutrition can lead to greater risk of chronic disease, frailty, disability, and increases in healthcare costs, yet nutrition status is rarely evaluated and managed as individuals transition across care settings. I therefore call on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to include malnutrition related quality measures in Traditional Medicare quality programs as well as include measures related to malnutrition in care transition programs.

COMMEMORATING ROBERT MARTINEZ, 14TH PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MACHINIST AND AEROSPACE WORKERS

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert Martinez, 14th President of the International Association of Machinist and Aerospace Workers.

Robert Martinez is a fighter for the working man. His current role as President of the IAM is just one of many titles he has carried over 36 years of fighting for union workers.

After serving his country in the Navy, he began his IAM career as a member of Local 776A in Fort Worth, TX after being hired as an Aircraft Assembler at Lockheed Martin.

At the IAM, Mr. Martinez has actively recruited and made a point to reach new generations of workers while protecting its nearly 600,000 active and retired members. Throughout his career, Bob has held positions at the local level and worked his way up to become the General Vice President of the office of Southern Territory, where he oversaw training and education for 14 southern states.

He also served as General Vice President of IAM Headquarters where he was responsible for the William H. Winpisinger Education and Technology Center, and IAM's Government Employees and Aerospace sectors.

Bob has been a vocal activist for labor rights in the Latino community.

He recently received the Cesar Chavez Award for his distinguished work on behalf of Latino working women and men. He currently serves as the Vice President on the Executive Board of the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement.

I honor Robert Martinez for his 36 years of service to union workers.

RECOGNIZING GABRIEL "GIB"
SWAN OF GREAT FALLS

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Gabriel "Gib" Swan who, for over a decade, knits winter hats and donates them to cancer patients, children, the less fortunate, and many others.

A Montana native and a graduate of St. Mary's High in Great Falls, Gib started knitting hats as a hobby more than 12 years ago when his wife, Roberta, gave him a kit and taught him.

Now 85, Gib has produced more than 1,000 hand-knitted hats that have been donated to homeless shelters, non-profit assistance providers, cancer centers, and local schools.

Gib, known throughout the community as the "Mad Hatter," knits hats of all sizes and colors and never accepts payment for his work. Nearly everyone at his senior living community has one of Gib's hand-knitted stocking caps.

Mr. Speaker, for his kindness and steadfast generosity in giving of his time and talents to provide comfort to others, I recognize Gib Swan for his spirit of Montana.

RECOGNIZING THE 2018 FAIRFAX
COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE DE-
PARTMENT FIREFIGHTERS OF
THE YEAR

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize those members of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department who are being honored for their tremendous dedication to

public safety. Every year, the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department selects an officer, a firefighter and a civilian from their ranks who have gone above and beyond the call in the performance of their duties. In Fairfax County, our first responders are among the best in the country. Our Urban Search and Rescue Team is deployed constantly across the country and the world when disaster strikes, most recently to Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico in support of relief efforts after Hurricanes Harvey and Maria.

To be selected to receive special recognition, these individuals truly represent the best of the best in their respective divisions. It is my honor to include in the RECORD the recipients of the 2018 Firefighter of the Year Awards:

CAREER OFFICER OF THE YEAR: DEPUTY CHIEF JASON R. JENKINS

Jason R. Jenkins holds the rank of Deputy Fire Chief with the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department (FRD), Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Division. Jenkins has 25 years of paid and volunteer experience in Fire and EMS and served as the Executive Officer to the Fire Chief from 2011 through 2016. He also served in a variety of state, local and regional capacities, including plans manager for USA-1/VATF-1 Urban Search and Rescue Team, Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance and Federal Emergency Management Agency; appointee to Governor Ralph Northam's EMS Advisory Board; and past chair of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Fire Chief's EMS subcommittee.

CAREER FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR: MASTER TECHNICIAN JOEL J. KOBERSTEEN

Joel Kobersteen has served as Fill the Boot Campaign coordinator since 2003, a role that I have been proud to collaborate with him on every year. The Fill the Boot Campaign is a partnership between the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department and the Greater Washington Muscular Dystrophy Association. Due in no small part to Joel's leadership, the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department has held the distinction of being the number one organization in the United States and Canada for funds raised for the last three years, including the campaign just completed over Labor Day weekend 2018, where an incredible \$603,676.05 was collected for research towards a cure for muscular dystrophy.

CIVILIAN OF THE YEAR: MS. REENA M. THOMSON, FINANCIAL SPECIALIST IV

Ms. Thomson has been assigned to the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department Urban Search and Rescue Team since 2011. In her role she not only manages the program office, but also manages the program's budget as well. Ms. Thomson played a critical role in the planning and execution of multiple taskings of the Urban Search and Rescue Team including: Annual Team Full Scale Exercise, Los Angeles (2017), Hurricane Harvey Texas Deployment (2017), Hurricane Irma Florida Deployment (2017), Hurricane Irma Puerto Rico Deployment (2017) and Annual Full-Scale Exercise, Fairfax (2018). The team also conducted an Administrative Review Evaluation in 2017 which resulted in VA-TF I receiving numerous Best Practices recognitions.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating this year's awardees and in thanking them for their continued service to our community. Their dedication to the safety

and wellbeing of others is truly worthy of our highest praise. I wish them and all the men and women of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department great success in all their future endeavors. Stay safe.

RECOGNIZING SHERIFF JIM
KAELIN'S SERVICE TO THE NA-
TION AND HIS COMMUNITY

HON. MICHAEL CLOUD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the service of a truly extraordinary individual that ensured the safety of his community through years of dedication to the people: Sheriff Jim Kaelin.

Sheriff Kaelin, of Corpus Christi Texas, has dedicated his life law enforcement, and has served his Nation and community for more than 50 years. Sheriff Kaelin is a Vietnam combat veteran who served with the 9th Infantry Division in the Mekong Delta in 1968. He was elected Sheriff of Nueces County in 2006, 2008, 2012, and again in 2016. Sheriff Kaelin holds a Master Peace Officer license and is a Certified Law Enforcement Instructor and a Certified Firearms Instructor. Sheriff Kaelin holds an Associate of Arts Degree in Police Science from Del Mar College in addition to having graduated from Northwestern University's prestigious School of Police Staff and Command. Before his election as Sheriff, he served with the Texas Department of Public Safety for 29 years, retiring in 2001. He also served as a deputy sheriff for two years, then a deputy constable. At his retirement from the DPS, he was the Region 3 Safety Education Service Commander and holds the rank of Eagle Scout.

His community involvement includes Past Potentate Al Amin Shriners, former Board Member for Shriners Hospitals for Children, Emeritus Board Member Goodwill Industries, Past President of Southside Rotary Club, Past President Coastal Bend Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, former Board Member American Diabetes Association, and a member of the CC Mustangs. In 2010, Sheriff Kaelin was honored as one of Del Mar College's 75 Distinguished Graduates in recognition of the College's 75th anniversary.

Sheriff Kaelin has been married to his "partner in crime," the former Sharon Bryzelak, for 42 years, and together they have five children, nine grandchildren and one great granddaughter. Currently, their two sons serve in law enforcement. Jerry, a retired DPS officer, is now a Detective Investigator with the Crockett County Sheriffs Office, and Jim Jr., a retired Texas Ranger, is now serving as the Director of Public Safety with the Lavaca Navidad River Authority.

It is an honor to recognize such a remarkable individual. I urge my fellow members of Congress to applaud Sheriff Kaelin for his dedication to serving our communities and enforcing the law.

HONORING RED ARNDT FOR
YEARS OF SERVICE**HON. KRISTI L. NOEM**

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mrs. NOEM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Red Arndt for his many years of service to the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System, as well as his lifetime commitment to bringing safe and reliable water to the rural corners of this country.

Born Lennis Arndt on May 1, 1948, he earned the nickname, Red, while in grade school from his full head of red hair. The name stuck, and most people only know him today as Red Arndt.

Red grew up in Springfield, Minnesota, about 90 minutes from his current hometown, Luverne where he first started working in 1989 as their public utilities director. Shortly after beginning his new position, Red heard about a proposal to bring water from the Missouri River in South Dakota to the surrounding states. A major undertaking with more people doubting the idea than supporting, Red saw the opportunity and potential, recommending to the mayor and city council that Luverne join and become one of the first members of the corporation that would later become the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System.

Seeing Lewis & Clark develop from conception to construction was a labor of love for Red, and a mission he fought hard to achieve. Red, one of only two original directors from 1990 still on the board, held a shovel when the ground was first broke in 2003. He has made over 60 trips to Washington, D.C.; many more to the state capitals; and has attended countless county, city and community meetings.

Fighting to get Lewis & Clark off the ground was just a starting point for Red. He has worked tirelessly on behalf of the project, serving as the vice-chairman of the board beginning in 1994 until becoming the board chairman in 2006, a position he still holds. Lewis & Clark has experienced ups and downs during those years, yet under Red's leadership, over 200 miles of pipeline have been laid in the ground—currently delivering much needed water to 14 member communities and reaching over 300,000 people across South Dakota, Minnesota and Iowa. He has seen over \$470 million in funding to Lewis & Clark, including \$57 million in advance funding from the three states.

Red's indisputable dedication was demonstrated when he participated in the ribbon cutting ceremony for the water treatment plant in August 2012, a mere two weeks after having open heart surgery. His fellow directors surprised him at the ceremony by presenting him with the Lewis & Clark Trailblazer Award, which is the organization's highest honor.

In May 2016, Luverne was finally able to celebrate their connection to Lewis & Clark, with Red reveling in taking the first swig of water. It was at this ceremony that the meter building in Luverne was dedicated in Red's honor. Red will be the first to acknowledge that this endeavor, benefiting generations to come in the tristate area, has been a true team effort. But, there is no question Red's vision for the future, dogged dedication and strong leadership have been a driving force through the years.

When he is not dedicating his time to Lewis & Clark, Red is a proud father of three boys (all sharing his red hair) and grandfather of three red-headed little girls. His family is his pride and joy. You will often find Red wearing a pin honoring his son who served in the United States Air Force.

As a dessert-first type of guy, Red lives life to the fullest, enjoying travel, fishing and numerous other outdoor activities in his free time, as well as hanging out in his "man cave." I am grateful for his commitment to public service, his hard work on behalf of Lewis & Clark, and, more importantly, I am proud to call him a friend.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Red Arndt for his many great contributions and wish him the best as he continues to make the most out of the life God has given.

IN HONOR OF THE TALLADEGA
HALL OF HEROES MUSEUM**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Talladega Hall of Heroes Museum.

The Talladega Hall of Heroes Museum is located in downtown Talladega in the old 1870's Wood-Weaver Shoes building donated by the late Robert Weaver to be used for this museum.

The building houses a collection of Veterans memorabilia as well as an exhibit for First Responders, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

The Talladega Hall of Heroes Museum also provides several community education and outreach programs.

The vision for the Hall of Heroes began in 2004 and was housed at the Armstrong-Osborne Public Library.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the Talladega Hall of Heroes Museum.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE BLUFORD
HEALTHCARE LEADERSHIP IN-
STITUTE**HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend the Bluford Healthcare Leadership Institute (BHLI) for its remarkable work in training the next generation of health care leaders.

The BHLI is a non-profit professional development program based in Kansas City, Missouri. Currently in its sixth year, BHLI is led by its founder, John W. Bluford, III, President Emeritus of Truman Medical Centers and former Chairman of the American Hospital Association and the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce. The BHLI is developing a pipeline of talented minority leaders that will diversify the ranks of health care leadership and work toward eradicating health care disparities. To date, 87 scholars—as participating students are called—have completed the program; 42 have received their undergraduate

degrees, and 37 are working in the health care field.

The BHLI is uniquely tailored for undergraduates primarily from Historically Black Colleges and Universities who aspire to lead health care organizations. The first phase of the program lasts for two weeks and provides the scholars with experiential and didactic training in Kansas City, featuring a cadre of nationally-recognized health care practitioners and policy experts. After successful completion of Phase I, the scholars are placed in paid internships across the nation where they delve more deeply into health care operations and policy.

This summer, 14 Scholars successfully completed Phase I of the program: Chayse Bryant, Jasmine Thomas, and Jehnae Thomas of Florida A&M University; Elijah Evans, Nassir Holden, Alexandria Stanton, and Sikilae White of North Carolina A&T State University; Myles Harris of Fisk University; Antonio Zamudio-Moore of Rockhurst University; Miranda Merritt and Joy Milner of Spelman College and Camila Aponte, Dominique Paje, and Kyle Liggins of the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Two scholars have just completed Phase II—internships here in Washington, D.C. Madison Blagrove of Florida A&M University interned at the Polsinelli law firm's Public Policy division. Madison is a pharmacy major who plans to practice clinical pharmacy upon the completion of her doctoral degree. Vanessa Mendoza of the University of Missouri-Kansas City interned at America's Essential Hospitals (AEH). Vanessa is a Health Sciences major who plans to pursue a master's degree in health policy and law, and then advocate for increased access to health care coverage and preventive services for underserved communities.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate all the scholars for their hard work this summer and to commend Mr. Bluford for his strong commitment to developing and nurturing the nation's future health care leaders.

DISAPPEARANCES AND DAMS IN
SINDH**HON. BRAD SHERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, as the Ranking Member of the Asia and the Pacific Subcommittee and the founder and chair of the Sindh Congressional Caucus, I have long focused on the human rights conditions in Pakistan. I have long urged Pakistan's government to ensure the human rights of its citizens and uphold the rule of law. This is especially true in Sindh province. Today, I wish to discuss two issues currently confronting the Sindh community: enforced disappearances and the construction of dams along the Indus River.

The most egregious problem in Sindh is enforced disappearances. The United Nations defines enforced disappearances as "the arrest, detention, abduction or any other form of deprivation of liberty by agents of the State or by persons or groups of persons acting with the authorization, support or acquiescence of the State, followed by a refusal to acknowledge the deprivation of liberty or by concealment of the fate or whereabouts of the disappeared person." Hidayat Lohar (Loohaar),

Khadim Arijio, and Aqib Chandio are just three of the hundreds of people in Sindh who have been forcefully disappeared. Often times, these people later turn up dead, and no justice is ever served. To give just one example, Dr. Anwar Laghari was murdered three years ago, and no perpetrator has been brought to justice. In fact, no one has even been charged.

Another issue plaguing Sindh province is the construction of dams and canals along the Indus River. Sindh province's economic well-being depends on having sufficient access to the water supplied by the Indus River. For decades, Sindh and Punjab provinces have shared this vital water supply. Recently, however, the Pakistani government has taken to unilaterally constructing dams and canals along the river without Sindh province's consent. This has increasingly choked off Sindh's water supply, threatening the province's economic viability.

These problems must be addressed. I urge the Trump administration to raise these issues with the new Pakistani government starting with Secretary of State Pompeo, who is meeting with the Pakistani Foreign Minister on October 2.

RECOGNIZING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WOODBRIDGE POTOMAC COMMUNITIES CIVIC ASSOCIATION

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the Woodbridge Potomac Communities Civic Association (WPCCA).

In October 2008, civic-minded volunteers in the Woodbridge area of Prince William County, Virginia founded the WPCCA in order to develop and implement a plan to improve their community. For a decade, the civic association, its leadership, and its members have worked tirelessly on the issues of redevelopment, transportation, beautification, and land use in order to improve the quality of life of the 66,000 residents of the Woodbridge Magisterial District.

The members of the WPCCA get their hands dirty with the hard work of civic engagement. Volunteers organize clean-up efforts and maintain flower beds along Route I, host an annual Dumpster Day for area residents to dispose of unwanted belongings, and clear local creeks of trash and debris. The organiza-

tion was instrumental in developing the North Woodbridge Small Area Plan with Supervisor Frank Principi, advocated for and secured underground utilities along a Route I widening project, and it is represented on the Executive Committee of the Prince William County Police Department's Citizen Advisory Board. WPCCA volunteers are engaged in every aspect of civic life in their community.

The WPCCA also hosts several annual events to celebrate and inform the citizens of Prince William County. The Woodbridge District is a majority-minority community, and the WPCCA celebrates this diversity with an annual cultural festival that includes ethnic food, music, and dance. The area is bordered by two major waterways—the Potomac and Occoquan Rivers—and the WPCCA uses its annual river boat cruise to highlight the environmental issues impacting area creeks and rivers. The annual legislative town hall hosted by WPCCA provides citizens with updates from elected officials on the most recent developments from the United States Congress, Virginia General Assembly, and the Prince William Board of County Supervisors.

It is my honor to include in the RECORD the names of the members of the Board of Directors for the WPCCA on the occasion of its 10th anniversary:

Myma Lim Youngberg—Chair; Lynda Silverstrand—Vice Chair; Reuben Johnson—Treasurer; Maureen Parlette—Programs and Events Chair; Nader Abed—Website and Membership Chair.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the Woodbridge Potomac Communities Civic Association and its members for the good work they do in Prince William County. Their efforts make Woodbridge a better place to live, work, and raise a family. We are all fortunate to have such dedicated volunteers in our community.

HAPPY DOUBLE TEN DAY

HON. DENNIS A. ROSS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, both the people of Taiwan and people in communities here in the United States will soon celebrate Double Ten Day, Taiwan's national day. This year's Double Ten Day is yet another cause for celebration. Once again, we can celebrate the remarkable transformation Taiwan has undergone in the years since the enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) in 1979, and ac-

knowledge that the TRA and the Six Assurances of 1982, which have served as the framework of US relations with Taiwan, have stood the test of time.

While every national day is a celebrated occasion, we must never forget that Taiwan is situated in some of the world's most contested waters and is facing a People's Republic of China that has met President Tsai and her government with hostility from the moment she assumed her office. Mindful of those concerns, I'd like to take a moment to highlight critical Taiwan related provisions, enacted into law in August of this year, in conjunction with the National Defense Authorization Act for the fiscal year 2019. This newly enacted law reiterates that the TRA and the Six Assurances are the cornerstones of our relations with Taiwan. In addition, it calls for the strengthening of defense cooperation with Taiwan to ensure they can maintain sufficient self-defense capability; for supporting Taiwan's acquisition of defensive weapons; and for more predictability with respect to US arms sales to Taiwan. This in my view was a critical and timely reaffirmation of our support for Taiwan's security.

The 23 million people of Taiwan have created a vibrant democracy and society. The United States has and will stand by our friend for many years to come, as we work together for the peace, prosperity, and security of freedom-loving people in Asia and across the globe. I am proud to call myself a friend of Taiwan, and again wish the people of Taiwan a Happy Double Ten Day.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present during roll call vote number 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, and 408 on September 26, 2018, due to recent surgery. Had I been present, on roll call vote number 402, I would have voted "no," on roll call vote number 403, I would have voted "no," on roll call vote number 404, I would have voted "yes," on roll call vote number 405, I would have voted "yes," on roll call vote number 406, I would have voted "present," on roll call vote number 407, I would have voted "no," and on roll call vote number 408, I would have voted "no."