

TEXAS WARRIOR PETTY OFFICER
THIRD CLASS ZARIAN A. WOOD

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Navy Hospital Corpsman Petty Officer Third Class Zarian A. Wood, known as “Z” to his friends, died at Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan, on May 16, 2010 of wounds sustained from an improvised explosive device blast that occurred in Helmand Province, while on patrol two days prior. Zarian, a 29-year-old hospital corpsman from Houston, Texas, was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, California. He was very well known as “Doc” in Afghanistan, serving on the front lines alongside Marine infantrymen.

Zarian graduated in 1999 from South Houston High School, where he competed on the wrestling team. He worked as a youth pastor and tutor for troubled kids on Houston’s northeast side and a merchandiser for Coca-Cola before enlisting in 2006. He dreamed of going back to school, studying radiology, and maybe even becoming a dentist. But always putting others before himself, he put his dreams on hold to fight for his country.

And fight he did—Zarian was a decorated soldier. His personal service awards include the Purple Heart, Combat Action Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon.

A month before he was deployed on his second combat duty, he had some quality time with his family. Between video games and steak dinners, they bonded for what would be the last time. His father Daniel Wood, a Vietnam veteran, commented on his son’s honesty and integrity: “He’d tell you in a flat minute if you were wrong . . . then again; he’d stand up for you in a flat minute if you were right”.

The liberty we cherish in this Nation has come at a great cost. At times we can all be guilty of taking the simple things in life for granted. We thank men like Officer Wood for these simple liberties. We thank them that we can wake up in the morning and are not afraid, and that we can go to bed at night knowing we are safe. Your selfless heroism has not been forgotten, Zarian. “Some people live their entire lifetime and wonder if they ever made a difference to the world, Marines don’t have that problem.”—Ronald Reagan.

And that’s just the way it is.

HONORING KATHERINE CAMPBELL
WITH CALIFORNIA’S THIRD DISTRICT
WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2018

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Katherine Campbell as a woman of the year. She embodies all the qualities of a community leader and generously dedicates

her time to bettering her community. As one of the founders in the effort to bring a community pool to the greater Capay Valley area, Ms. Campbell was able to successfully secure a \$2.9 million dollar grant from the California Department of Parks and Recreation. Due to her continuous determination and firm commitment, the new Esparto Community Park and Aquatic Center is set to be completed before the summer of 2019. She currently serves as the treasurer of Capay Valley Vision, where she is actively engaged in developing and prioritizing critical projects that are aimed at community development. With unmatched experience and dedication, Ms. Campbell has shown herself to be an integral part of many past and present projects designed to help make Yolo County a better place to live. She serves as the Yolo County Planning Commissioner, the chair to the Capay Valley Citizens Advisory Committee and a contributor to the Rumsey Improvement Association. Since 2016, Ms. Campbell has been a vital member of the Yolo Parks, Recreation, and Wildlife Advisory Committee working to provide insight to Yolo County regarding community parks, open spaces, wildlife habitat, and other projects focused on the interests of parks and recreation. Ms. Campbell tirelessly and passionately advocates for her community and is most deserving of this recognition.

HONORING THEODORE ATTEBURY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2018

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Theodore Attebury. Theodore is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1264, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Theodore has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Theodore has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Theodore has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Theodore Attebury for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CONSTITUENT COMMENTS ON SOBER LIVING HOME PROBLEMS

HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2018

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise again regarding the hearing held by the Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice on September 28, 2018 on the issue of sober living homes. At that hearing, I had the privilege of testifying in support of my bill, H.R. 5724, to restore local oversight over

sober living homes. As part of my testimony, I submitted to the Subcommittee letters from many of my constituents about problems with sober living homes caused by current federal law preventing appropriate local oversight. For the benefit of my colleagues and the American people, I include in the RECORD the sixth group of these constituent letters below:

Good Afternoon, I am a Registered Nurse. I am also in recovery 30 years. I have also worked with the homeless and indigent population. I have family members who suffer from addiction. I believe the sober living houses should be licensed so that they can care for addicts in the appropriate manner. I believe the houses should be regulated in that way: however, as far as zoning, I would have to review your whole bill to make sure it isn’t a NIMBY type of plan as is with the homeless population in our county. I will be more focused on the housing issues of our ill population and the homeless crisis in the State of California as being a disservice to the people who are here. Mental health and homelessness should be the priority in this state. Thank you.

CATHERINE ORLANDO,
Huntington Beach, California.

I understand the possible issues surrounding these sober living homes, however I haven’t heard anything about what would replace them if they are moved from residential neighborhoods. Rather than sticking our noses into these “businesses”, why don’t we work on actual crime? It sounds like you are proposing an easy way out method. If these owners are bad, do good old-fashioned police work and arrest them. We have plenty of laws on the books impeding business owners and home owners, how about spending less money on government and more money on drug programs and good police officers.

JAMES ETHEREDGE,
Westminster, California.

We had a sober living home behind our back fence in our single-family home. It was really a nightmare for the houses on both sides of them. They woke up at six 6:30 in the morning and went out in the backyard to smoke cigarettes. They were loud, obnoxious and used tons of foul language. Both families on either side of the home had small children. There were also numerous police calls and constant noise and shouting during the day and at night. After numerous warnings they tried to contain the house and have more control over it but still continued to fail. Even neighbors had arguments with clients who were outside acting up and talking loud using foul language. Eventually the problems became so great that the owner of the property was contacted that it was no longer acceptable to be renting out for Sober Living homes. Shortly after that, the sober living home was disbanded, and the house was put up for sale. It is now being used as a single-family home and the neighbors are all very happy including ourselves. Sober living homes need to be in buildings away from normal residential living. People do not have to put up with that kind of obnoxious noise and action 24 hours a day to feel like they’re helping people get sober. Put these homes somewhere in an industrial area near an airport or commercial buildings where they cannot disturb the other tenants or neighbors. We owe nothing to these people and they should not be distracting from our lives.

DONALD HADDOCK,
Costa Mesa, California.

I own a 5-unit condo at [REDACTED] in Costa Mesa. We work hard to maintain the

units and the grounds around them. We are often out in the front where we care for about 20 trees and grass that borders both [ADDRESS].

The trees are planted on a four foot high berm, set back from the grass and sidewalk. There are sections of this berm where plants are thick, and people can hide between these plants and the fence that runs around the top of the berm.

We find trash, liquor bottles, condoms, discarded (stolen) contents of someone's glove box, clothes, etc. scattered in spots on this berm every week. This has gotten worse in the last few years.

About a year ago, my wife and I went out to the front corner in the early morning and found a lost, dazed and haggard woman in her bathrobe and slippers, asking for help to find her rehab facility. From what I could tell, she was 6-8 blocks north and west so must have been walking for some time.

Another time when my wife went out to water, a homeless man who had spent the night in our berm was startled by her. He spent a few minutes trying to tie a small cart with his belongings to a junk bike that he had concealed for the night. She did not feel safe, so I came out until he peddled away.

This must stop! Our city has become a cesspool because of these rehab centers.

I don't care how well they are managed, the people that are collected from around the country and dumped into these centers, are not productive members of our community but predators who see the people of this community and their property as targets for exploiting their toxic lifestyles.

Please help us put some controls in place. Better yet, an end to it all.

Thank you.

Best regards,

PAUL STARY,
Costa Mesa, California.

I have spoken directly to the city council about this terrible matter! I even asked if anyone on the council owned one! There are over 350 of these not supervised homes here! A friend was robbed on [ADDRESS] two years ago from one of these homes! Check your records [NAME]! Do something now to rid us of this menace!

JAN MCALLISTER,
Costa Mesa, California.

Dana, I support you in this. I know my neighborhood was so scared that one was going in. We met and signed petitions for it not to go in. It is so frustrating when a law is passed that it does not take into account neighborhoods that are open and have children playing in the yards. The smoke, noise and smell from these places is terrible. The unscrupulous people as well. The entire energy changes in a community to be closed instead of being a place to rest the body after a hard week of earning money to afford a place to offer a peaceful place to raise a family.

I feel for the residents who go to City Council and have to plead their case to keep them out. I know you feel the same way.

Keep up the good work.

ROBERTA LEWIS,
Costa Mesa, California.

Huntington Beach Council Member Erik Peterson will be speaking on my behalf in regard to Sober Living Homes in Huntington Beach, CA cc: Congressman Dana Rohrabacher I am really distraught with this legislation that allows greedy landlords to turn residents homes into Drug Detox Homes or as most call them Sober Living Homes with 6 residents living in these homes as drug addicts try to sober up. I would never buy a

home that is located next to one of these Sober Living Homes but the legislation that makes it legal to do this Code Enforcement allows this to happen putting our city in harm's way with lots of crime. Attached is Video proving that this drug addict trespassed onto my property and walked into my bedroom at 1:30 am and I showed Huntington Beach Police Department the full video and they said it was most likely a drunk from Main Street. My home is [ADDRESS] next door is [ADDRESS] where this guy came from. Huntington Beach Police Department gave the benefit of doubt to the drug addict protecting their rights over mine saying it was perfectly legal to have 6 residents in one home. The legislation that makes this legal is a crime and Drug Detox Homes should be illegal where residents live. Code Enforcement should protect the citizens' rights first before drug addicts' rights to live anywhere they have a Sober Living Home. It is wrong and creates crime wherever they are located putting kids and senior citizens in harm's way. Driving into my home now is like entering a combat zone because you have no clue who is going to be trespassing on your property while they live next door. Not to mention Code Enforcement allows this to happen when they say safety is our first concern for our citizens then back stab us by allowing Sober Living Homes in our city bringing crime up because these homes are hardly supervised and always have more people entering the homes than what's legally allowed. My security cameras catch all the curfew violators and strange visitors coming and going and we always have noise issues with tons of cigarette smoke polluting our air as they party late into the evening changing our neighborhoods for the worst with no regards to HB Citizens Rights. If Code Enforcement was doing their job they would have never allowed a Sober Living Home at [ADDRESS] because not only am I 70 years old now I am also 100% service-connected disabled from the Vietnam War and I rent part of my home out to another disabled Veteran who also is 100% service-connected from his injuries while serving in the Vietnam War. At best, Sober Living Homes are a violation as elder abuse and Huntington Beach Code Enforcement should say this location is wrong because elders and disabled veterans live next door to [ADDRESS]. Code Enforcement should have protected our rights before drug addicts' rights to live next door to my house and destroy my tranquility at [ADDRESS] Huntington Beach California. I am shocked and appalled that this Sober Living Home Legislation is allowed in the State of California and I want it abolished. Being forced to live next to Sober Living Homes is a crime in itself because it only benefits greedy landlords and insurance companies that are on the take while very few are getting sober.

Thank you for allowing me to tell my experience with this issue of Sober Living Homes and how it has affected my tranquility in my retirement years.

ROBIN RUSTAN,
Huntington Beach, California.

I have seen the clientele from these sober living homes in my neighborhood. I've been a registered nurse over 25 years with experience with individuals with substance abuse and mental health issues. The individuals I see often are not sober and often have a primary mental health issue they are trying to self-medicate with. Theft has gone way up since these homes have grown substantially. Theft by breaking into homes and cars. I have been spat on for not giving money and observed IV drug use. These homes seem to accept the money and within 30-60 days these individuals are on the streets with no sup-

port committing crime for the drug habit that was not treated appropriately. Oversight is a must, not likely but I would recommend department of public health nurse/surveyors.

DONNA SEGEBERG,
Huntington Beach, California.

My son is presently living in a Sober Living House in Huntington Beach, CA. I couldn't be more grateful for this experience. This awful drug infestation is touching way too many of our young men and women and our families! We are very fortunate to have found an excellent Christian Recovery Center and Sober Living House. We need so many more in decent neighborhoods! Please help us help our loved ones recover from this horrible situation and becoming good community citizens!

TONI STEIN,
Seal Beach, California.

I am a longtime resident of Huntington Beach, CA. I recently was notified by the neighborhood watch that there is a sober living home on the same street that I reside on as of April 2018. I also found out that the residents have had several run-ins with the local police for criminal activity including public drug usage, trespassing, indecent exposure to children amongst other parole violations. There is an elementary school that is less than 100 yards away from this SLH and my daughter attends that school. She walks to school every week day. I have serious concerns about her safety because she must walk by this house twice a day. The neighbors no longer let their children play on the street because of all the recent police activity. My main concern is the safety of the children, but my other concern is the lack of regulation and supervision at this SLH. Why are they not zoned? Regulated? Licensed? All they need is an LLC. I request that there be some type of regulation and background checks for these SLH owners. They are making huge profits at our children's expense.

GINA O'BRIEN,
Huntington Beach, California.

I have lived in this beautiful city for 20 years. One of the reasons why I choose to raise my family here is because it was family friendly and safe. Unfortunately, in the last year city of Huntington Beach has erected several if not over 100 sober living homes. One such sober living home has opened up on my street. This home has caused many problems, safety, legal altercations on a regular basis. On top of all those issues it is located two houses down from our middle school, that my daughter goes to. Over 100 children walk past or are dropped off in front of this house every single day. I am extremely concerned for these children's safety. And access to drugs. It is beyond believe that the State of California would allow such homes to be near a school. People are not trying to detox or become sober in this home. I believe this house and many other houses are just drug dens. Please crack down on this problem and make sober living homes illegal in family neighborhoods and especially adjacent to a public or private school.

GINA WALTERS,
Huntington Beach, California.

PLEASE support this bill. Even better, come visit Costa Mesa and see how our amazing town has deteriorated because of these "treatment" centers and ridiculous sober living homes.

Brokering "human trafficking" and out of control homeless and crime/real estate agents in bed with these treatment centers and then threatening the public if anyone speaks out.

I was born at Hoag Hospital in 1968. I have lived in Newport Beach and Costa Mesa for 50 years. My husband was extremely mentally ill and was an addict. I well understand the situation. The only true help my husband received for his addictions, was from old school 12 step programs. There are wonderful AA groups and housing in Costa Mesa that are run by committees which are rotated every few months. Check out [REDACTED]. They do amazing work and do it quietly by donations, not scamming insurance companies or families.

This model should be supported, not the business for profit one.

Again, please support Dana's bill.

ROBYN HUBBARD,
Costa Mesa, California.

CELEBRATING THE 60TH
ANNIVERSARY OF WRWH RADIO

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2018

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 60th Anniversary of WRWH Radio, in Cleveland, Georgia.

WRWH Radio began operating as an AM radio station in 1958 and its call letters were derived from White, Rabun, and Habersham counties, which it serves. Over thirty years ago the station was purchased by Dean and Bonnie Dwyer. Since then, WRWH has evolved from operating out of an old Quonset hut on the southern edge of Cleveland, to a state of the art studio on Hood Street.

Today, WRWH broadcasts news talk on 93.9 FM. The station also provides learning opportunities for college and high school students.

In its 60 years, WRWH has become a leader in covering White County's local news and was one of WDUN's original news partners when AccessWDUN.com launched. That partnership continues today.

I join WRWH as they celebrate their 60th anniversary and commend this North Georgia business that continues to thrive.

RAISING AWARENESS OF NA-
TIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOY-
MENT AWARENESS MONTH

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

This month is an opportunity to raise awareness about disability employment issues, educate the public about the value of a workforce inclusive of their skills and talents, and celebrate the contributions of workers with disabilities.

National Disability Employment Awareness Month dates to 1945, when Congress enacted a law declaring the first week in October each year "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week."

In 1988, Congress expanded the week to a month and changed the name to "National Disability Employment Awareness Month."

As of September 2018, 21.4 percent of the U.S. labor force 16 years old and above have a disability.

My home state of Texas has the second largest number of individuals with disabilities in the United States.

In 2014, Texas had almost 820,564 individuals (6.2 percent) of the total civilian labor force 16 and older in Texas (13,220,312 individuals) had a disability.

Although not every person living with disabilities can work, it is imperative that we create opportunities for those who are able and desire to work.

For Kayla McKoen, her job is more than just a hobby.

As the first registered lobbyist with down syndrome in history, Kayla McKoen shares her passion for advocacy by representing the differently abled community on Capitol Hill and lobbying for equal rights for those who are differently abled.

Kayla says that "It feels so important to advocate for others because they might not have that voice themselves, and the more we advocate our message, the louder we are. I hope I am helping to change things for future generations of the Differently Abled community."

Individuals with disabilities can strengthen the current and future economy and are a valuable resource for employers.

The workforce system must ensure that employers have access to every potential skilled worker.

Workplaces welcoming of the talents of all people, including those who are differently abled, are a critical part of our efforts to build an inclusive community and a strong economy.

Smart employers know that including different perspectives in problem-solving situations leads to better solutions.

Hiring employees with diverse abilities strengthens their business, increases competition and drives innovation.

Individuals with disabilities enhance workforce diversity and offer employers the skills, knowledge, and experience that Texas businesses need to thrive.

Private and public-sector workplaces that support integrated employment opportunities, as well as greater use of assistive technologies in the workplace, can provide individuals with disabilities the opportunity to gain and maintain employment.

We must commit to providing support for those living with disabilities by further educating ourselves and our communities on disability employment to foster a more inclusive workforce.

As we observe National Disability Employment Awareness Month, let us pay tribute to all who fought for better laws, demanded better treatment, and overcame ignorance and indifference to make our Nation more perfect.

In their honor, and for the betterment of generations of Americans to come, let us continue the work of removing obstacles to employment so every American has the chance to develop their skills and make their unique mark on the world we share.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognition of National Disability Employment Awareness Month and ask all Americans to take time this month to find out what you can do to encourage the employment of those with disabilities and empower all of America's workforce.

HONORING LOGAN CAMPBELL

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2018

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Logan Campbell. Logan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 269, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Logan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Logan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Logan has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Logan Campbell for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PROCLAMATION HONORING THE
LIFE AND LEGACY OF JAIME
BENÍTEZ REXACH

HON. JENNIFFER GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2018

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following Proclamation in recognition of the life and legacy of Mr. Jaime Benítez Rexach:

Whereas, Mr. Jaime Benítez Rexach was Puerto Rico's leading scholar for nearly 70 years, becoming a major influence on Puerto Rican and American education as chancellor and then president of the University of Puerto Rico;

Whereas, Mr. Jaime Benítez Rexach made it possible for the University of Puerto Rico to become a first-rate institution, serving communities across the island, and bringing talent from all over the world to teach and learn in Puerto Rico;

Whereas, Mr. Jaime Benítez Rexach's role in shaping the curriculum at the University of Puerto Rico paved the way for his membership on the United States' National Commission for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) from 1948 to 1954;

Whereas, Mr. Jaime Benítez Rexach made a significant contribution to the development of Puerto Rico's local government and territorial constitution, by chairing the constitutional convention's commission that wrote the island's Bill of Rights;

Whereas, Mr. Jaime Benítez Rexach served as Puerto Rico's 12th Resident Commissioner in Congress, representing and providing a voice for the territory's American citizens from 1973 to 1977;

Whereas, as a Member of Congress, Mr. Jaime Benítez Rexach continued his longstanding commitment to improve the island's and the Nation's education system by serving on the House Committee on Education and Labor;