

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 20, 2018

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, on November 16, 2018, during debate on H.R. 6784, the Manage our Wolves Act, I voted incorrectly on Roll Call Vote No. 420. My vote should have been cast as 'NO.'

H. RES. 1138 PASSAGE

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 20, 2018

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I'm proud to be an original cosponsor of House Resolution

1138, and I wholeheartedly support its passage.

H. Res. 1138 condemns the heinous anti-Semitic attack on the building housing three congregations, Tree of Life, Dor Hadash, and New Light in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania that resulted in the deaths of 11 innocent people. The resolution honors the memory of the victims of the attack, as well as offers condolences to and expresses support for their families, friends, and community.

I am saddened and outraged by this hateful act. Unfortunately, anti-Semitic incidents have been on the rise—increasing 57 percent in 2017. This horrific shooting at the Tree of Life synagogue is yet another manifestation of this ancient hatred.

Congress stands united in condemning the deadly attack on the Tree of Life synagogue, remembering all who were taken from us on that fateful day, and wishing speedy recovery for those who survived. Last week, Members

of Congress passed this bill, not as Republicans or Democrats, but as Americans who oppose intolerance.

The freedom to worship is a core principle of this nation—one that our forefathers enshrined in our Constitution to protect us all from undue prosecution. As a Jewish Member of Congress, I stand ready to fiercely defend the right of all Americans to freely exercise their religious beliefs. With anti-Semitism on the rise, we must redouble our efforts to eradicate it at home and abroad.

I pray for the victims of the Tree of Life shooting and their families, and I know that our community will work to promote religious tolerance and freedom everywhere.

COMMEMORATING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF LSU'S PENNINGTON BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH CENTER

HON. GARRET GRAVES

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 20, 2018

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 30 year anniversary of LSU's Pennington Biomedical Research Center. Founders C.B. "Doc" and Mrs. Pennington donated to the university in hopes of building "the biggest and best nutrition research center in the country." Their vision has largely been accomplished. As the center has grown, they've become a premiere scientific research institution—highly sought after to publish medical research on chronic disease prevention and to host national medical symposiums. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) selected Pennington Biomedical for several medical studies such as diet risk factors for heart disease, the effects of diets on blood pressure, and diabetes prevention. Over the past 30 years, there have been 212,123 scientific citations from over 5,000 Pennington Biomedical publications. Their work has improved the quality of life for millions of people worldwide. I'm proud to represent this premiere research facility, housed at one of Louisiana's finest schools. Well done, Pennington Biomedical Research Facility, on an incredible 30 years of excellence and discovery.

RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF LEADERSHIP FAIRFAX

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 20, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an organization that has made an incredible mark on our Northern Virginia community. Since 1988, Leadership Fairfax has dedicated itself to shaping the future leaders of tomorrow. The dedication of Leadership Fairfax to this endeavor is one that I know well; a number of my staff from my time as Providence District Supervisor and later as Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors are Leadership Fairfax alumni.

Through both the Leadership Fairfax Institute and the Emerging Leaders Institute, Leadership Fairfax identifies the leaders of tomorrow and works to equip them with the knowledge, experience and skills to not only become more productive employees within their organizations, but also to become more productive members of society and their communities as well. As part of their training programs, enrollees in both LFI and ELI are given a contemporary issue facing Fairfax County to solve. These collaborations have led to invaluable insight for both the public and private sectors and have at times illuminated possible avenues for partnerships where none seemed to exist previously. Recent ELI and LFI programs have focused on increasing ethics and transparency in government, something which is called for now perhaps more than at any previous point in our history. I commend Lead-

ership Fairfax for its continued dedication to enhancing civic life in Northern Virginia.

One of the benefits of Leadership Fairfax that I have valued the most is the ability to foster consensus on difficult issues. In Fairfax County, we can pride ourselves on having a model of civil discourse and debate when it comes to dealing with the problems of government. Even though we might have strong disagreements on an issue, we have been able to engage in these discussions without having the forum devolve into personal attacks. As the national political environment grows ever more toxic, it is even more vital that we have programs like Leadership Fairfax which remind us that the main objective of government is to solve problems, not to score political points for one party or another.

Mr. Speaker, we in Northern Virginia are blessed with an abundance of civic engagement and a belief in giving back to one's community. That abundance is something which is unique to our region, cultivated over time by the efforts of organizations like Leadership Fairfax. I want to especially thank Tim Sargeant, Karen Cleveland and all the members of the Board of Directors, staff and volunteers that have worked to continue that cultivation over the last three decades. I also extend my congratulations to all of the graduates of Leadership Fairfax, past and present, for the work you do every day in our community to make it a better place. All your efforts are truly selfless and are worthy of our highest praise. Congratulations on this momentous anniversary. I look forward to celebrating your continued contributions for many years to come.