

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING DEVIN RICH AND
KIERSTEN BARE FROM KALISPELL

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor siblings Devin Rich and Kiersten Bare of Kalispell for helping victims of the Woolsey and Camp fires recover from the devastation.

A graduate of Flathead High School, Devin lives in Marina del Rey, California. While the nearby Woolsey Fire roared in early November, he volunteered to help with the support efforts. Wearing protective gear and working in difficult circumstances, Devin helped victims of the fire search through the ash and rubble where their homes stood to salvage items dear to them.

Driven by her compassion for animals, Kiersten, who lives in Kalispell, worked to reunite lost pets with their owners. Kiersten spent hours online studying photos of the displaced animals to identify potential matches to help pet owners in their search.

The Woolsey and Camp fires devastated California this year, claiming nearly 90 lives and destroying more than 14,000 homes. Devin and Kiersten are among the generous Americans who answered the call to serve others in their time of need. I commend all the firefighters, first responders, support workers, and volunteers who saved lives and helped those impacted by these catastrophic fires.

Mr. Speaker, for their compassion for the victims of California's disastrous Woolsey and Camp fires and their commitment to helping in the recovery, I recognize Devin Rich and Kiersten Bare for their spirit of Montana.

RECOGNIZING SUPERVISOR RANDY
HANVELT

HON. TOM McCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Randy Hanvelt for his devoted service as a Tuolumne County Supervisor.

Supervisor Hanvelt was first elected to serve the 2nd District of Tuolumne County in 2010 and has worked incessantly on behalf of his constituents ever since.

In his years of service, Randy Hanvelt has transformed the job of a County Supervisor. He has relentlessly pursued a better way of life for the residents of Tuolumne County; never missing an opportunity to share his message, express his passion, and inspire others to advocate for rural issues.

In addition to serving on more than a dozen regional committees and commissions, Supervisor Hanvelt was elected Second Vice Chair to the Rural County Representatives of Cali-

fornia in December 2016. He served as both the Second and First Vice Chairs during his tenure as Tuolumne County Supervisor. In July 2018, Supervisor Hanvelt was appointed chair of the National Association of Counties' Public Lands Policy Steering Committee. In 2017, the California Forestry Association awarded Randy the title of "Conservationist of the Year."

Supervisor Hanvelt has worked tirelessly on behalf of his district and the entirety of Tuolumne County. He has advocated locally and nationally for full funding of Payments in Lieu of Taxes, the Secure Rural Schools Program, and Forest Health projects, including Rim Fire Recovery and the County's Master Stewardship Agreement with the U.S. Forest Service. Randy has also been an instrumental leader in developing programs and securing funding to eradicate dead and hazardous trees.

Supervisor Randy Hanvelt has truly been at the forefront in making Tuolumne County a more prosperous place. He has set a new standard for local leaders and his service to the community is incomparable.

IN APPRECIATION OF PAUL
THOMPSON UPON HIS RETIRE-
MENT FROM THE GOVERNMENT
ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my appreciation of Mr. Paul Thompson upon his retirement from the Government Accountability Office.

Over the past four decades, Mr. Thompson has worked on a diverse range of issues in the Legislative and Executive Branches. Mr. Thompson began his federal career in 1977, as a staff member to the then-U.S. House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. He then joined the Department of Energy's Office of General Counsel in 1980 as a Law Clerk. In 1982, he left the Department of Energy and joined the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) as an Attorney-Advisor. In 1987, Mr. Thompson took a position in the private sector, but, just three years later, he began working at what we now know as the Government Accountability Office. But in 1991, it was called the General Accounting Office.

Over the past 27 years, Mr. Thompson has helped GAO carry out its core mission of supporting Congress in meeting its constitutional responsibilities and to help improve the performance and ensure the accountability of the federal government for the benefit of the American people. In my capacity as the top Democrat on the Committee on Homeland Security Committee, I have found him to be a reliable resource to our staff in our efforts to carry out vigorous oversight and appreciate

his personal commitment to providing staff with valuable insights and information.

Mr. Speaker, you may be wondering whether Mr. Thompson and I are related. We are not related, but we share a commitment to accountability and oversight.

We thank Mr. Thompson for his service to our country and wish him the very best.

PASSING OF RON BARTOLI

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, northern California lost a great leader, visionary, family man and true patriot in Ron Bartoli.

Ron's success as a businessman included building a thriving international company. His passion for the U.S. Air Force and its critical missions, and the men and women serving at BEALE AFB was relentless and sincere. Much of the success and growth of missions at BEALE AFB since 1986 can be attributed to Ron's efforts.

Ron loved people and he spent quality time with everyone he came to know. He was an accomplished pilot, sport fisherman and he loved to play golf. He was a longtime Board Member and past Board Chair at Sierra Central Credit Union.

IT IS GOING TO TAKE MORE THAN
SANCTIONS TO REVERSE IRAN'S
EXPANSIONISM

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, across the Middle East today, armed thugs backed by Iran are entrenching themselves in local communities, undermining democratic aspirations, and stockpiling weapons in preparation for war against America's allies. Sadly, it's nothing new. For more than a decade, Iran has constructed a formidable array of foreign legions that exploit corruption and instability to subjugate millions to Tehran's will. In response, the President has rightly restored sanctions on the Islamic Republic and prioritized confronting its regional activity. But to reverse the gains Iran and its proxies have made over recent years, America and its allies must go beyond sanctions.

Sanctions are designed to deny resources to Iran that are used to support terrorism, develop nuclear weapons, and conduct human rights abuses at home. We know this strategy has had some success in the past stalling Iran's efforts and forcing Tehran to come to the bargaining table. The Obama Administration, however, gave away the farm to the Mullahs, removing many of the sanctions that

• 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.

brought Tehran to heel and opening the door for Russia, China, and the Europeans to do business in Iran. Obama also ceded physical territory to the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and its proxies by not contesting their growing activity in Syria and Yemen and withdrawing U.S. forces from Iraq. The resulting instability led to ISIS's rise and a secure land route from Tehran to Beirut from which the IRGC could move recruits and weapons to Israel's borders. These policies of appeasement have created a powder keg that could erupt into regional war.

At a recent hearing before my subcommittee, the Coordinator for Counterterrorism at the State Department, Amb. Nathan Sales, testified that Iran spends \$1 billion-per-year funding its various terrorist proxies in the Middle East. This sum pales in comparison to how much we spend to deploy forces to the region, assist allies, conduct diplomacy, and gather intelligence. Yet, Iran is gaining ground. How is this possible? For one reason, Iran's march of terror is cheap and adaptive, using low-cost arms, violent coercion, disinformation, and crime to operate. Meanwhile, we chose to play by the rules and attempt to rebuild what Iran and other terrorists destroy. It's far cheaper and easier to destroy than to build. And unlike our efforts during the early Cold War, in the Middle East we are attempting to build or reinforce institutions that either never existed or are plagued with corruption.

But this doesn't mean American taxpayer dollars are spent in vain. For example, few would argue that the U.S.'s largest foreign assistance program, \$3.8 billion-per-year in military financing to Israel, is money wasted. Rather, that money ensures Israel holds a military edge over Iran and its terrorist allies thus preventing the Mullahs from ever achieving one of their core objectives: the extermination of Israel. Just weeks ago, Palestinian terrorists backed by Iran, fired dozens of rockets into Israel. 120 of those rockets were intercepted by Iron Dome, a missile defense system paid for and jointly developed through American assistance. Moreover, the Israelis are not sitting idly by as Iran masses forces on its northern borders. Since 2013, Israeli warplanes and missiles, subsidized by U.S. taxpayers, have struck dozens of Iranian and Hezbollah convoys transporting weapons to Lebanon or the Golan Heights.

Action by Israel is effective but limited. For example, recent reports indicate the IRGC is utilizing the territory it controls in Iraq and Syria to position ballistic missiles that can target Israel, Saudi Arabia, and our forces in the region. Finding and striking these missiles is an enormous challenge for Israel and could have ramifications for Americans stationed in those countries. Instead, it is up to America to contest Iran's grip on these arenas by empowering local actors and demonstrating American resolve.

So far, however, the State Department has done the opposite by resisting Congressional efforts to designate Iran's most lethal Iraqi proxies, such as Asa'ib Ahl al-Haq and Harakat Hezbollah al-Nujaba, and shutting the American consulate in Basra, Iraq. Such action demonstrates to Iran that it need only threaten an American diplomatic post and the U.S. will retreat, ceding more space for them and their proxies. Tragically in the case of Basra, we are abandoning Iraqis who courageously took to the streets to protest Iran's

meddling in their country. Simultaneously U.S. forces in Syria are trying to prevent a war between our Kurdish and Turkish allies that has allowed ISIS to survive and Iranian weapon shipments to pass by unmolested.

Only when we tackle these local challenges can we dislodge Iran. To do so requires us to make hard choices and strategies with potentially more costs. But if countering Iran's expansionism is truly our objective, we must show commitment to partners on the ground that we are willing to confront Iran alongside them. Until then a storm is gathering that will inevitably pull Americans back into a long and difficult war.

And that's just the way it is.

IN HONOR OF MR. RICHARD L. CLEMENS' LIFELONG COMMITMENT TO PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a dedicated community leader and public servant of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District. In life, Mr. Richard L. Clemens demonstrated tremendous compassion, bravery, and selflessness through his commitment to family and civil service.

Mr. Clemens was born to Ruby Weber Clemens and John R. "Jack" Clemens on April 4, 1945 in Marshall, Missouri. A former graduate of Marshall High School, Mr. Clemens would go on to receive a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from Missouri Valley College in 1967. Through his newly acquired degree, he would go on to serve as an auditor for the United States Department of Agriculture Inspector General, where shortly thereafter he would meet his wife and lifelong partner, Nellie. Born and raised in Marshall, Mr. Clemens was well-known to the people of his hometown as many were his friends, neighbors, and members of his congregation.

When called upon, Mr. Clemens stood tall and proud to serve his country during the Vietnam War in 1968, and again in 1969. His service to our country didn't end there, as he continued to show pride and dedication to assisting his brothers in arms by serving as a member and officer of the American Legion Post No. 191 and as the Senior Vice-Commander of the V.F.W. Post No. 2646.

Mr. Clemens had many goals in life apart from serving our country and the people as an auditor. From 1975 to his retirement, he owned and operated Clemens Circle C Farm while holding various organizational and local governmental positions. His interests and determination led him to hold many positions such as Chairman of the Saline County Republican Central Committee, President of the Saline County Fair Board, and the Saline County Extension Council. Furthermore, his dream of serving his community in an elected position was fulfilled in 2016, when he was elected the Saline County Northern District Commissioner. These notable positions are only a few of the many roles Mr. Clemens has held within the community, yet they illustrate his unremitting passion and devotion for the people and community he represented.

He is preceded in death by his parents and the love of his life, Nellie. He is survived by

his two daughters, Anna Clemens Gass and Rebecca Clemens; his four grandchildren, Abigail, Vivian, Simeon, and Lilian; his brother, George Clemens; and his nieces, nephews, and cousins. Though he is dearly missed, his legacy of love, respect, and high esteem by his family, peers, and community remain. Mr. Clemens is revered for his impressive leadership, his lively personality, and commitment to his community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me and all of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District in honoring the memory and life of Mr. Richard L. Clemens. His upstanding contributions and service to the Marshall community and our country are beyond worthy of this commemoration. It is with great respect that I urge all my colleagues and fellow citizens across the country to join me in showing our appreciation to Mr. Clemens and sending our deepest condolences for his family, friends, and community.

HONORING BRUCE MACRAE

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Long Beach, California legend, Bruce MacRae. Bruce is a longtime employee of the United Parcel Service (UPS) and is currently Vice President of State Government Affairs for California and the Western Region of the United States. In this role is where our lives originally intersected. My relationship with Bruce has kept me grounded during my time in elected office and his friendship is one that will continue (even though our days of smoking cigars are less frequent).

Bruce grew up in Long Beach and graduated from Wilson High School. He started his career with UPS in the area, at the Anaheim package facility in 1979. Bruce rose through the ranks as a driver and took on a management position in 1987 which was the catalyst to his success as a Government Relations executive.

As a result of Bruce's professional success and his free loving personality, philanthropy has been a natural pursuit. Bruce is a Long Beach City College Board member, Long Beach Police Foundation president, and generous donor to the Long Beach City College's athletic department. These accolades along with his big personality donned him the title of "Legend" in a Long Beach Post article in 2015.

As with any life there are ups and downs. In 2015, Bruce suffered a heart attack while in Phoenix for work. It was a grounding experience for everyone that knows and cares about Bruce. At that moment, we all truly realized how much Bruce means to the Long Beach community and the level of respect that people have for him. As you would expect from someone of Bruce's character, he recovered from open heart surgery seamlessly.

I am proud to call Bruce a friend and I am grateful for his companionship throughout my years in public service. Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and commending Bruce MacRae for his contributions to Southern California, our state, and nation.

PASSING OF CHARLES C. MESSICK

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, well known farmer, beloved family patriarch and loyal friend, Charles C. Messick, born in Yuba City, CA, on April 28, 1935, passed away November 25, 2018. Chuck was active in many farm and community organizations. He was instrumental in organizing the California Prune Bargaining Association, as well as the Walnut Bargaining Association and was a Director on the California Peach Association Board. He was elected to the Farm Credit Board of Directors, and served as Chairman of the Board for a term. Governor Ronald Reagan appointed him to the Yuba Sutter Fair Board in 1972. He was a charter member of Sutter Buttes Sunrise Rotary, a Paul Harris Fellow and served as President in 2004 through 2006. He looked forward each year to acting as marshal of the Fairway to Health golf tournament benefiting the Rideout Hospital Foundation.

As his five children were growing up, Chuck was an active volunteer and leader in the Hallwood 4-H Club, Marysville Little League and Marysville High School Boosters' Club.

He is survived by his wife Shiela; sisters, Marilyn Kirby (Sparky) of Yuba City and Carol Howell of Sparks, Nevada; daughters Sharyl Messick-Menconi (Jim) and Beth Aldridge (Chuck) of Yuba City; sons, Charles Messick of LaPorte, Michael Messick (Loré) and Jon Messick (Amy) of Marysville; grandchildren, Andrea Brown, David Brown, Shayla West, Kelly Messick, Mattea Spradling, Jim Messick, Matthew Messick, Ben Neighbors, Rachel Dawson, Kayla Legaspi, Charlie Messick, Hailey Messick, Thomas Messick, Jackson Messick, Owen Messick, Noah Messick, Sydnia Aldridge, Kate Aldridge and Sarah Aldridge. He had twelve great-grandchildren.

HONORING THE CAREER OF JERRY O'BANION

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Merced County Supervisor Jerry O'Banion. On December 18, 2018, Mr. O'Banion retired from the Merced County Board of Supervisors after 28 incredible years of service.

Mr. O'Banion was born and raised in Dos Palos, California on the westside of Merced County. Having grown up seeing his father, Emory O'Banion, serve as a county supervisor for the westside communities, Mr. O'Banion saw the importance of public service early on. In 1964, he graduated from Dos Palos High School and continued his education at Fresno State, where he earned a BA in General Sciences and an Agricultural Education Credential in 1969.

After serving 6 years in the National Guard and as a 4-H youth advisor in Fresno County from 1969 to 1973, Mr. O'Banion returned to Merced County where he would soon begin his distinguished career of public service.

Mr. O'Banion was elected to the Dos Palos City Council in 1980 and served in that role until being elected as the city's mayor in 1987. Three years later, he was elected to the Merced County Board of Supervisors to represent the county's westside communities of Dos Palos, Los Banos, and Santa Nella. During his time on the Board of Supervisors, Mr. O'Banion has served as chairman numerous times, including this year of his retirement.

Mr. O'Banion's 28-year tenure on the Merced County Board of Supervisors makes him the second-longest serving county supervisor in the State of California. In each of the offices Mr. O'Banion has held, he has had the honor to represent the places where he grew up. At the same time, he has also raised an amazing family in those communities.

Together, Mr. O'Banion and his wife of 50 years, Dollie, have three children and eight grandchildren, all of whom have always been supportive of his service to the community and helped to carry on the proud legacy of the O'Banion family.

In retirement, I am sure Mr. O'Banion will continue to exhibit the same level of unwavering leadership and commitment present throughout his career as he continues to serve the various local organizations he's involved with and his family's business, O'Banion Ranches, Diversified Farming.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the exemplary career of a Merced County Supervisor Jerry O'Banion. It is both fitting and appropriate that we honor a man who has spent a lifetime advocating for Merced County's westside. I wish him and his family the best as he retires from a highly accomplished career in public service.

IN RECOGNITION OF SUE DIGRE

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Sue Digre for her 16 outstanding years of service on the Pacifica City Council, three times as mayor. Sue's compassion for others and her love of community have shaped her public service and dedication to keep Pacifica a livable and lovable town on the edge of the Pacific Ocean. It is her firm belief that Pacifica's environment with stunning ocean views, coastal hills, and family-friendly neighborhoods is its most valuable asset.

Sue deserves much credit for the current upgrades and repaving of Highway 1 by Caltrans. This ambitious project will renew ten miles of Highway 1 from Gray Whale Cove to the Highway 1/280 interchange, the first time in over 20 years that the main road through Pacifica will be repaved end-to-end instead of in sections. The finished project will be hugely beneficial to the 250th Commemoration of the Ohlone-Portola Heritage Trail in 2019, an event Sue has lobbied for since 2014.

Sue was also instrumental in helping the Pacifica Historical Society turn the Little Brown Church into a beautiful coastal museum and event space. The Manor Beach Park, brainchild of the late Councilman Jim Vreeland, was completed in part due to Sue's efforts.

A tireless advocate for our youth, Sue feels it is important that they be given an oppor-

tunity to speak for themselves. She helped create the Youth Advisory Board in 2011, and a representative of the board now has a seat on the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission. She supported TRUST, Teens are Unbelievably Strong Together, in their work surveying transportation needs for youth and seniors which temporarily led to shuttles in Pacifica.

Sue understands that small businesses are the lifeblood of her town and has consistently listened to their owners' needs. She also spearheaded Pacifica's membership in the San Mateo County/Silicon Valley Visitors Bureau which brings the town attention from visitors throughout the region.

While Pacifica's geography makes it one of the most spectacular communities in San Mateo County, it also makes it vulnerable to sea level rise and coastal erosion. In 2016, fierce El Nino storms pounded the coast and damaged the seawall. Sue, along with the entire council and city staff, reached out to the City of San Francisco, the State of California and the federal government for assistance. To this day, my office is deeply involved in finding solutions to these ongoing challenges.

My office has also worked closely with Sue and the council to reduce the relentless airplane noise that has been plaguing Pacifica neighborhoods for years. Sue has been a fierce advocate for Pacificans on the disastrous health impacts of airplane noise that the FAA must address.

Susan Anne Lockard was born in Youngstown, Ohio and, as a Navy child, attended schools all across the country and world, from Ohio to North Carolina to Hawaii to Japan to Illinois to California. She earned her B.A. in Biology with a minor in Philosophy and a California State Life Credential from the Women's College of Notre Dame in Belmont. She started teaching general education classes throughout California for the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur in 1960. In 1968 she moved to Burlingame and taught at Mercy elementary and high schools until 1999.

In 1977, she married Erick L. Digre. They have four children, Colleen, Sean, Michael and Scott. Sean and Michael serve in the military and were deployed after 9/11. Sue reached out to other mothers through the local paper, the Pacifica Tribune, to co-found the Pacifica Military Moms. This effort led to its incorporation as the San Mateo County Blue Star Moms.

Since 1999, Sue has served as the Family Support Services and Advocacy Department Director for PARCA, Partners and Advocates for Remarkable Children and Adults. She has also volunteered for numerous organizations including the Burlingame Civic Action Forum, the Pacifica Open Space Committee, and the Sierra Club. As is obvious from this list, Sue is deeply dedicated to serving her community and supporting those in need.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor a great community leader and personal friend, Sue Digre. We hail her contributions to Pacifica residents and visitors that will remain long after she retires from the city council. It's been my privilege to work with her for many years and I have no doubt that she will continue her civic engagement in her beloved home town.

INTRODUCTION OF THE LOW-WAGE
FEDERAL CONTRACTOR EM-
PLOYEE BACK PAY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Low-Wage Federal Contractor Employee Back Pay Act to grant back pay to federally contracted retail, food, custodial and security service workers who are furloughed during a federal government shutdown this fiscal year (fiscal year 2019). This bill applies to all three branches of the federal government. After the 2013 government shutdown, federal workers received back pay, but not federal contract workers. While I believe that all federal employees and federal contract workers should receive back pay after a shutdown, we know that we cannot get Congress to make whole all who are hurt by a shutdown. My bill focuses specifically on low-wage federal contract workers, some of whom work here on the Capitol grounds providing Members of Congress and congressional staff with daily services, because these are the workers most likely to be irretrievably hurt by lost wages during a shutdown.

Many federal contract workers earn little more than the minimum wage and receive few, if any, benefits. While some are unionized with a little better wage, all are the lowest-paid workers in the federal government and should not be penalized because Congress has failed to do its job to keep the government functioning. Congress, historically, has provided back pay to federal employees, who often work in the same buildings as these low-wage contract workers, furloughed during government shutdowns—but not to low-wage contract workers. However, both groups of workers deserve to be made whole after shutdowns. I recognize, of course, that contract workers are employees of contractors, but the distinction between federal workers and, at least, the lowest-paid contract workers, who, for example, keep buildings clean, fails when it comes to a deliberate government shutdown. Unlike many other contractors, those who employ low-wage service workers have little latitude to help make up for lost wages. Low-wage, federally contracted service workers can least afford the loss of pay during a shutdown and should not have to go without pay while everyone else in their federal buildings likely receives back pay.

The nation's capital is the high-profile home of the federal government's complicity with contractors who pay low wages through leases and contracts with federal agencies. At least this legislation would provide some parity to their low-wage federal contract workers.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. ANDREW
FITZGERALD

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the life of Mr. Andrew Fitzgerald

of the United States Coast Guard, a hero and beloved member of the community who passed away at the age of eighty-seven.

Andrew Fitzgerald, a true American hero, lived an exemplary life of service, demonstrating a true commitment to our nation and our community. Born in Whitinsville, Massachusetts on March 19, 1931, he was always motivated to better his community. As a young man he joined the United States Coast Guard. He would then go on to be a part of the greatest small boat rescue in Coast Guard history and receive the Gold Lifesaving Medal.

On February 18, 1952, Mr. Fitzgerald and the crewmen aboard *CG-36500* responded to two large oil tankers in distress, the *Fort Mercer* and the *Pendleton*. They showed exemplary skill as they navigated through high winds, lightning, and monstrous seas. While on their way to the *Pendleton*, the severe thrashing of the waves caused their engine to stall. Mr. Fitzgerald demonstrated extreme heroism as he crawled into their engine compartment to restart it every time, so they could continue on their mission. Once they arrived at the *Pendleton*, one by one, they took 32 survivors off the pitching stern and brought them safely to Chatham Harbor.

Following his service in the Coast Guard, Mr. Fitzgerald went on to have a successful business career in Colorado. He married Gloria Frabotta in 1956, and together they had a daughter, Dawn and a son, Michael. Mr. Fitzgerald dedicated his life to caring for his loved ones, including volunteering at his local church. He was always ready to lend a helping hand to anyone who crossed his path.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of Andrew Fitzgerald. I ask that my colleagues join me in remembering his courageous actions, and those of his crewmen, that saved so many lives.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE SIGNING OF THE
MIGRATORY BIRD TREATY ACT

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. This landmark law has protected cherished birds throughout North America while unifying environmentalists, hunters, and scientists for generations.

In New Hope, Pennsylvania, supporters of environmental preservation are gathering at the Bucks County Audubon Society at Honey Hollow on December 19, 2018, to celebrate the "Year of the Bird" in honor of the centennial celebration of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

It gives me immense pride to stand with them and their commitment to environmental stewardship for all animal species. As we celebrate the "Year of the Bird," let us remember the joy and beauty nature provides us, and strive for unifying goals of which the Migratory Bird Treaty Act is a prime model.

PASSING OF LARRY "PETE"
PETERSON

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, Larry "Pete" Peterson of Yuba City, CA, was born on April 23, 1936, and passed away on October 11, 2018 at Rideout Hospital in Marysville. Pete retired from the United States Air Force as a Tech Sergeant after serving 43 years and served in the Korean Conflict and the Vietnam War. Pete continued to serve his community as an officer with the Yuba City Police Department and after retiring, served 25 years as a Reserve Officer.

Pete was a member of the Episcopal Church and participated in the activities of the VFW Post 2563, Yuba City American Legion post 705, Disabled American Veteran Chapter 6 Sacramento, CA, and the Thomas T Smith Masonic Lodge No. 78 in Marysville, CA. Pete was an active participant in the Kiwanis Club. He served as past president and past Lt. Governor. Pete was the founder of The Hope Of America Scholarship Program. He was also a George F. Hixson Fellow. He received numerous awards and recognition from retired Police Chief Richard Doscher and retired Deputy Chief George Carey.

Pete is preceded in death by Debra Peterson and Sandra Pankey-Peterson, wives; his daughter, Nicole Peterson; his son, Lawrence F. Peterson, Jr.; and his brother, Paul Peterson.

He leaves to grieve a stepson, Aaron Pankey; his stepmother, Vivian Peterson; his sisters, Florence Dent-Hunter and Loretta Johnson; his brother, Vincent Peterson; daughters-in-law, Alfreda Peterson and Connie Peterson; five grandchildren; three great-granddaughters; one great-grandson; and numerous sisters and brothers-in-law, cousins and friends.

HONORING DARIUS ANDERSON

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Darius Anderson for his outstanding business acumen and host of contributions to his community.

Darius Anderson is a founder and contributing member of a variety of businesses. About 20 years ago, he became the Founder and CEO of Platinum Advisors, a government affairs firm that works all throughout California. He also is the Founder and CEO of Kenwood Investments, a California Opportunity Fund that has been a fixture in many communities since 2000. On top of that, he is a Managing Member of Sonoma Media Investments, a newspaper publisher. He also served as the Chief of Staff for the Yucaipa Companies and was the Vice President of External Affairs for Ralphs Grocery Stores, Inc. between 1993 and 1998.

Darius Anderson has dedicated years of hard work and his own personal time for the betterment of his community. He was the

Chair of the National Advisory Council for the UC Berkley Institute of Governmental Studies, and is now a member of the Board of Directors of the George Washington University Graduate School of Public Management's Council on American Politics, California Building Bridges, Sonoma State University Green Music Center and is a Co-Chair of the Friends of the UCSF Center for Reproductive Health Advisory Board.

Darius Anderson has no plans to slow down. His next big undertaking is the Treasure Island Development Project, an effort to redevelop the former Naval Station Treasure Island in the San Francisco Bay.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and recognizing Darius Anderson for his lifetime of success and positive contribution to dozens of California communities.

UPON THE OCCASION OF THE DEPARTURE OF DONNA RUTHERFORD FROM THE EAST PALO ALTO CITY COUNCIL

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Donna Rutherford who is leaving the city council of East Palo Alto after a total of 25 years of service to the residents of her remarkable community. Donna is a steady voice of reason and a warm, committed person who welcomes all who enjoy her city's diversity, opportunity, and vitality.

East Palo Alto is a city in the midst of great change. As a town of nearly 30,000, the community is at the crossroads of two major highways, deep in the heart of Silicon Valley. Donna Rutherford understands that the economic forces shaping East Palo Alto must not be allowed to change the diverse population of the community but instead be harnessed to create opportunity for all its residents.

Central to opportunity is housing, and as a councilwoman Donna Rutherford advocated for and supported the construction of affordable housing for all populations. While Mayor, she approved of, and then joined in turning the ground for, a long-awaited senior project—University Avenue Senior Housing. On the council, she consistently spoke about the need to develop the city's parcel on Weeks Street, a project that will come to fruition in the next few years thanks in part to her vote. She also supported the use of a city-controlled lot that will soon become a supervised, nighttime parking location for residents living in their recreational vehicles.

Her dedication to opportunity did not begin with the council. As a school volunteer while her children were in elementary school, she attended school board meetings so frequently that some thought she was a district employee. She ran for the school board and was successful, serving from 1988 to 2000, including some of the most difficult years of school funding by the state.

At one point, students approached the city council with a study showing that East Palo Alto had more liquor stores per capita than surrounding communities. The council took note, and Donna celebrated their investment of time and energy, noting years later that stu-

dents have so much potential to make a difference. Liquor stores have gradually given way to a thriving retail center, a hotel and office complex and other improvements to East Palo Alto's quality of life.

As a councilmember, Donna Rutherford represented the city on the San Mateo County Vector Control District board, as an alternate on C/CAG—an agency formed from cities throughout San Mateo County, on the county library board, and the wastewater management board. She is also the city's alternate on numerous other important boards impacting the quality of life of residents.

Mr. Speaker and Members, East Palo Alto is definitely a city on the move. It will miss the leadership of Donna Rutherford, but her moral authority and authentic voice of concern, filled with wisdom, will continue for many years to come. She once noted of her childhood neighborhood, Hunters Point, that she loved living near the bay. The winds sometimes blow hard across both Hunters Point and East Palo Alto, two communities with a vast bay shoreline, but the winds will never extinguish the will to serve that lives within the heart of Donna Rutherford. Donna Rutherford is a friend and colleague whose guidance I will miss as East Palo Alto continues to evolve. I know she will still be available to offer her sage advice.

As she retires from the council, I wish her, her husband, Joe, and her children Trevor, Roxanne, and Damaris well in the years to come and we know that new adventures await this relentless leader of East Palo Alto.

IN APPRECIATION OF SACHA HAN FOR HER DEDICATED CAREER OF PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to today to recognize one of my longest serving staff members—Sacha Han. Sacha grew up in Fullerton, California in the heart of my Congressional District.

She came to my office as a High School student, seeking to intern and learn more about the government. We don't take many High School students as interns, but Sacha was smart, poised, and wise beyond her years, and she was a great addition to my District Office. When Sacha graduated from High School, she came East to attend the George Washington University, right here in Washington, D.C. Once again, Sacha interned in our office, doing such a good job that we hired her for a full-time staff position upon her graduation from college.

Sacha became such a key part of my staff, that when she announced that she was leaving the office to attend Nursing School, we persuaded her to continue to work part-time while she attended school. She not only continued through nursing school, but she has remained on my staff to this day—20 years after she first walked into my District Office.

Sacha is a joy to work with, and I am grateful for her service to the constituents of the 39th District of California, to my office, and to the House of Representatives. In addition to working two jobs, she is also a wife to Eduardo, and a mother to Bianca and Liam. I know that they too are very proud of Sacha.

I thank Sacha, and wish her and her family all the best.

PERSECUTION OF THE BAHAI

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to condemn Iran's state-sponsored persecution of its Baha'i minority.

While the global community is rightfully concerned about Iran's ties to international terrorism and its destabilizing activities in the region, we must not forget those who struggle for religious freedom and basic civil liberties in Iran.

As the largest non-Muslim religious minority community in Iran, the Baha'i people have long been subjected to severe religious persecution by the Iranian regime. Several of its leaders have been arrested, and members have been executed. According to the 2018 International Religious Freedom Report, Iranian authorities have arbitrarily detained over 1,000 Baha'is over the past decade.

The Baha'i people are routinely and systematically discriminated against on the basis of religion. Since 2014, officials have infringed on the economic pursuits of the Baha'i by closing over 600 of their shops.

In addition, Baha'i children are regularly denied access to schools and higher education. Even if they are permitted to attend school, they are not free to learn about their religion or participate in religious practice. If they do, they face harassment and potentially expulsion.

The discrimination and persecution of this community is shameful and inexcusable. The social teachings of the Baha'i Faith—including the equality of all humans, regardless of gender, race, or class, and the principle of each individual's responsibility to investigate the truth—are universal values that should be guaranteed. These are human rights we must protect.

The United States and the international community must not ignore this egregious abuse and blatant discrimination against the Iranian Baha'i community. We must stand up to the Iranian regime and hold it accountable for its actions.

By passing H. Res. 274, we shine a light on the persecution of the Baha'i, and hopefully move us one step closer to true religious freedom in Iran.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. HANS MUMM

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Hans Mumm for his government service and significant contributions to the U.S. Military's Information Operations. Dr. Mumm is currently a futures researcher for the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency. In this position, he uses his UAV and robotics expertise to design policy for advanced technologies and studies the consequences of its

future uses. This September, Dr. Mumm will be celebrating his 50th birthday.

Dr. Mumm began his military career as an enlisted service member. He gained notoriety for his leadership role in “Operation Iraqi Freedom” as the officer in charge of the “Iraqi Regime Playing Cards; CENTCOM’s Top 55 Most Wanted List.” The Defense Intelligence Agency praised this Information Operations mission as one of the most successful campaigns in the agency’s history. Dr. Mumm was recognized as one of the “Ten Outstanding Young Americans” and awarded the National Defense PAC “American Patriot Ingenuity Award” for his service during “Operation Iraqi Freedom”.

After serving in the enlisted ranks and subsequently as a U.S. Army Captain, Dr. Mumm was medically discharged in 2010, becoming a Wounded Warrior. Following the completion of his active service duties, Dr. Mumm has continued to achieve remarkable feats. In June of 2014, Dr. Mumm was awarded the Exceptional Performance Award from the CIA for his work as a branch chief. In this capacity, he oversaw the development of the Continuous Monitoring Branch (CMB) and transformed this technology into an integral part of the CIA’s cyber security framework.

Over the course of his career, Dr. Mumm has earned twenty-three personal military ribbons and combat medals. He is also the author of two international bestselling books detailing the leadership challenges and opportunities in the fields of technical investigation and military intelligence. In addition to his current job at the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency, Dr. Mumm serves as an adjunct professor for the California University of Pennsylvania (CALU) and the American Military University (AMU).

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing Dr. Hans Mumm for his acts of patriotism that have greatly benefitted our country as he celebrates his 50th birthday.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF ALMA
NEWSOM FORNAL

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and remember the outstanding life of Alma Newsom Fornal, 1st lieutenant of the U.S. Army Air Corp.

Mrs. Fornal, born in 1920, graduated from the University of Arkansas. Upon graduation she moved to Mississippi to be with her father, where she then took up flying. In 1943 she joined the Army Air Corps as a member of the pioneering group called the Women Air Force Service Pilots (WASPs), making her one of the first women allowed to fly military aircraft. These trailblazing pilots were an integral part of the World War II war effort. Her contributions as a test pilot enabled safer flights of the AT-6 for male pilots serving overseas. In 2009 she was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal by President Barack Obama.

Alma Newsom Fornal was laid to rest today December 19, 2018. Her dedication to serving our nation in its time of need is due the utmost respect and admiration, and her place in history and time of service will be honored. On

behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I thank her for her patriotism and pioneering spirit which have paved the way for future generations.

PRESIDENT MOON IS GOING SOFT
ON LITTLE KIM

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it’s been a year since North Korea tested a nuclear-capable ballistic missile. After successive years of increasing missile and nuclear weapon testing, the fact that none occurred in 2018 is remarkable progress. Even more so when we recall that talk of imminent war on the Korean Peninsula was echoing throughout the media just a year ago. This retreat from the nuclear brink would not be possible without President Trump’s bold diplomatic efforts. However, with negotiations to achieve verifiable denuclearization still ongoing, the maximum pressure campaign that brought Kim Jong-Un to the table must continue. Unfortunately, it appears at risk due to South Korea’s dovish president.

The current talks with North Korea are a game of nuclear chicken. President Trump’s approach ties intense international sanctions with diplomatic engagement that, if successful, provide the North Korean regime an economic life-line if it commits to irreversible dismantlement of its nuclear weapons program. But success hinges on comprehensive sanctions remaining in place until Kim Jong-Un formally makes that pledge and demonstrates verifiable steps towards denuclearization. Until now, Kim has only agreed to further talks and taken minor steps to show good faith, such as halting weapon tests, closing the Punggye-ri nuclear test site, and releasing American hostages. While encouraging, negotiations continue with the hope of achieving more substantive action, including a declared inventory of its full nuclear program. Here, intelligence reports seem to indicate that the North’s nuclear and missile programs may actually be continuing to develop in secret.

President Trump, therefore, has kept sanctions in place as negotiations continue. Withdrawing some sanctions too early would disincentivize the regime from agreeing to complete dismantlement—a mistake that was made in past negotiations. The President has also permitted talks to continue so long as the North Koreans engage in constructive dialogue. In August, when Kim’s regime appeared to be stalling, he canceled a planned meeting between the regime and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo. This action sent a clear signal that we won’t be gamed and that the regime risks losing its only opportunity towards having sanctions removed. Negotiations have since resumed, with the North agreeing in October to allow inspectors to visit the Punggye-ri nuclear site. Conditioning talks and standing firm on sanctions ultimately is the only way this process will work. Kim, on the other hand likely believes that he can wait-out the negotiations by alternating between stalling and piecemeal concessions until the U.S. and its allies tire or agree to a softer deal that removes sanctions. The regime will then quietly cheat, as they have before.

This time, however, it appears that South Korea’s President Moon Jae-in will be the first to blink. In October—just a week after negotiations produced approval for inspections at Punggye-ri—President Moon conducted a tour of Europe where he urged allies to loosen sanctions on the Kim regime. Luckily, our European friends denied Moon’s request, knowing that North Korea still has a ways to go before verifiable denuclearization is achieved. Mr. Moon’s attempts to break the maximum pressure campaign, as well as the unity between the U.S. and its European allies, suggests that Little Kim may have found his mark and is exploiting Moon’s naïve sensibilities.

For months, President Moon has sought to court Little Kim hoping to reduce tensions between the two Koreas. In September, he approved reconciliation deals with the Kim regime that pledged the withdrawal of guard posts along the de-militarized zone and restoration of some economic ties between the two countries. The South has since reversed its willingness to reopen Kaesong, a joint industrial center where South Korean companies employ workers from the North, citing a lack of progress on denuclearization. Had Moon’s plan to restore economic ties through Kaesong gone forward, South Korea may have found itself in violation on United Nations sanctions. But Moon has moved forward with other projects, including a program to improve North Korea’s rail network and link it with the South.

An initial study of the North’s rail system was approved last week by the U.N. Security Council following pressure from the White House to seek approval. Nonetheless, Moon’s separate diplomatic maneuvers and premature offers of economic opportunities are likely encouraging the Kim regime to slow negotiations and steps towards denuclearization.

With so much still at stake, the U.S. and its allies must present a united and stern front to pressure North Korea into accepting complete denuclearization. Little Kim has to see that maintaining any aspect of his nuclear weapons program is a no-win situation because crippling sanctions will ultimately dismantle his regime. However, if Kim sees weakness in our South Korean allies that he can use to chip-away at the current sanctions on his regime, he will continue to stall negotiations and our leverage will begin to collapse. President Moon must not be deceived by Kim’s small gestures of goodwill and prematurely fold.

And that’s just the way it is.

HONORING STAFF SERGEANT
PATRICIA SALAZAR

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Staff Sergeant Patricia Salazar, who recently retired from the New Mexico Air National Guard after 25 years of distinguished service. Throughout her accomplished career, Staff Sergeant Salazar played many valuable roles in defense of our state and our nation.

A native of Santa Fe, New Mexico, Staff Sergeant Salazar graduated from St. Michael’s High School in 1980. She received an athletic

scholarship from the College of Santa Fe and graduated in 1984 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminology. She went on to receive a Master of Science degree in Criminal Justice Administration from California State University, Long Beach in 1986. After completing her graduate degree, Staff Sergeant Salazar returned to her home state and attended New Mexico State Police Training Academy. She then enlisted in the United States Air Force and completed her training in 1993.

Staff Sergeant Salazar began her tenure with the New Mexico Air National Guard's 150th Security Forces Squadron at Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque. After the tragic events of September 11th, 2001, she helped develop and initiate emergency evacuation plans for senior Pentagon leadership. In 2003, she transitioned to the New Mexico Army National Guard's 1209th Medical Detachment. From 2009 to 2011, Staff Sergeant Salazar was stationed in Kosovo and supervised a team of field medics during deployment and field operations. In 2012, she returned to Kirtland to serve with the New Mexico Air National Guard's 150th Special Operations Wing.

I had the pleasure of meeting Staff Sergeant Salazar last year when I worked with the Army to ensure that her father, Staff Sergeant Joe Salazar, received the medals he earned while serving our nation in World War II. He served with the 497th Bombardment Group of the Army Air Forces from 1942 to 1945, earning several honors including a Bronze Star. Mr. Salazar was also a role model for his daughter when she enlisted and during her service overseas.

Mr. Speaker, I want to salute Staff Sergeant Patricia Salazar for her 25 years of service to New Mexico and the United States. It is hard-working, service-minded individuals like her who continue to make our state and our nation

so great. I wish her the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING WILLIAM GRAY

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. William Gray on his retirement from Gray-Bowen-Scott, a company William founded and served as President of for over 30 years.

Before founding Gray-Bowen-Scott, William served as the Chief Deputy Public Works Director of Contra Costa County. He served as an active participant in supporting major civic efforts regarding transportation issues in the region. It should then come as no surprise that William is credited with spearheading several innovative and successful land development plans such as Pleasant Hill BART, the first transit-oriented development in the county.

After his tenure as Chief Deputy Public Works Director of Contra Costa County, William founded Gray-Bowen-Scott and through his leadership and vision championed many collaborative ventures that impacted economic vitality, improved movement of goods and people, and enhanced the quality of life for the East Bay. Though his accomplishments over more than 30 years are innumerable, there are a few achievements we should mention for the extraordinary impact they had on our community.

William was instrumental in the completion of the Interstate 680/Highway 24 Interchange. He helped facilitate the three-county partnership for the I-680 Sunol Grade Express Lane Project. And, he was a key figure in the fourth bore of the Caldecott Tunnel.

William also had vision beyond singular projects and helped shape two specific pieces of legislation. These were Measure C, the original "self-help" transportation sales tax measure, which included the model for growth management policy and state congestion management agencies, and Measure J, which ensured continued progress for Contra Costa County of meeting the transportation infrastructure needs of the region.

I want to thank William Gray for the significant contributions he has made to the Bay Area and wish him the best of luck in his retirement.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, December 20, 2018 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.