found him guilty of public corruption on October 28, 2009 and was sentenced to 15 years in federal prison. After serving eight and half years, on December 28, 2018, due to his failing health, Mayor Langford's sentence was commuted by a federal judge giving compassion release. The next day, Mayor Langford was transferred from a federal prison hospital in Lexington, Kentucky to Birmingham by ambulance where he was admitted to a Birmingham hospital and remained until his death on January 8, 2019.

Mayor Langford was an active member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Fairfield, AL and frequently held bible studies to help promote the Word of God. He wanted to help the young men and women in his community to be guided by the strength and lessons of the Bible and to help heal the community through faith. Mayor Langford is survived by his beloved wife, Melva; son, Ronald Strothers; brother, Oliver Nance; niece, Lena Powe McDonald; sister-in-law, Casi Ferguson; two grandchildren, Ronald and Jared Strothers; and a host of other nieces, nephews, friends and supporters.

On a personal note, I am grateful for the kindness shown to me by Mayor and Mrs. Langford when I first moved to Birmingham. Mayor Langford was a man of big vision and a huge heart that has left our community better because of his many initiatives. It was out of respect for his many good deeds that I was honored to play a part in getting Mayor Langford's compassionate release due to his failing health so that he could spend his final days in Birmingham. Mayor Langford died as he lived—with dignity, distinction and as a free man with his family, friends and community who loved him deeply.

On behalf of Alabama's 7th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering the life of Mayor Larry Paul Langford. May we celebrate the totality of his life today and honor his great works during his 23 years of service to Fairfield, Birmingham, and Jefferson County, Alabama.

RECOGNIZING JDRF ADVOCATE MAX SELMSER

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 14, 2019

Mr. KATKO. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of Max Selmser, a constituent in my district living with type 1 diabetes. Now 13 years old, Max has lived with type 1 diabetes for over seven years and has become an advocate for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF). Max's efforts have engaged his family, friends, and community in finding a cure for type 1 diabetes.

Type 1 diabetes presents significant obstacles for those struggling with the illness. Afflicted individuals must constantly manage the disease through insulin shots to stabilize their blood sugar and are at long-term risk for various severe complications. However, the millions of people living with type 1 diabetes have bonded together to form a strong community working to discover a cure in the near future. Max is a perfect example of a member of this community.

Max participates in various awareness and fundraising events for type 1 diabetes. He has long served as a JDRF Youth Ambassador and Youth Advocacy leader since his diagnosis. In these roles, he informs his community about type 1 diabetes, how he lives with the illness, and offers his advice to newly diagnosed children. Additionally, he is active in the nationally popular JDRF One Walk and raised $35,000 to research a cure with his walk team.

For the 2019 JDRF Children's Congress, Max aspires to be a delegate from New York State in order to bring his advocacy efforts to Washington. He will have the opportunity to meet with lawmakers to discuss the funding needs of the Special Diabetes Program if selected. Max is an inspiring individual and is an excellent role model for children living through type 1 diabetes. He has my full support as he continues the application process.

We have a responsibility to invest in cures and assist researchers in their efforts to cure the diseases plaguing millions of Americans, and costing our nation billions of dollars. Type 1 diabetes is no exception and Congress must invest in the medical specialists searching for a solution to this ailment. Congress has taken positive steps forward with the 21st Century Cures Act, but these efforts must continue.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in recognizing Max Selmser. Living through any disease is no easy task but Max doesn't let his disease prevent him from reaching his full potential. I thank Max, as well as advocates across the country, for their efforts to find a cure for type 1 diabetes. I am optimistic one day soon a solution to this illness will be discovered thanks to the commitment of organizations such as the JDRF.

SUPPORTING H.R. 206, THE ENCOURAGING SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATORS ACT AND H.R. 246, THE STIMULATING INNOVATION THROUGH PROCUREMENT ACT OF 2019

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 14, 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I want to state my support for H.R. 206, the Encouraging Small Business Innovators Act and H.R. 246, the Stimulating Innovation through Procurement Act of 2019. I thank Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ, Congressman ROUDA, Congresswoman FINKENAUER and other colleagues on both committees for their work to advance these bills to the House Floor.

Through competitive research and development grants and contracts, the SBIR and STTR programs provide opportunities for innovative small businesses to participate in the federal research and development enterprise. The Federal R&D enterprise supports innovation by funding the best and brightest at our great research institutions, our national labs, and small businesses across all sectors of our economy. The SBIR and STTR programs have proven to be an important part of that investment. Over the years, the Science Committee has supported strong funding as well as improvements in policy and oversight for the SBIR and STTR programs. Last Congress, several important pilot programs were extended and other updates were made in law that help make the programs more effective and efficient. These include supporting more early-state funding for small business innovators, providing funding for important agency outreach and program administration, and streamlining reporting requirements.

The Science Committee considered several of the provisions in H.R. 246 in the 115th Congress. As these two bills advance, the Committee looks forward to working with our colleagues on the Small Business Committee to review and adopt policy changes in the SBIR and STTR programs that continue to strengthen the partnership between innovative small business and our federal research agencies. Further, I hope we will continue working together to ensure that the agencies prioritize outreach and other activities to increase the participation of women and minority-owned innovative small businesses in the SBIR and STTR programs.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 206 and H.R. 246.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 14, 2019

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Madam Speaker, on January 14, 2019, I regret I was unable to vote due to an important conflict in my congressional district. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 30, H.R. 116, the Investing in Main Street Act.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF HERB KELLEHER, CEO OF SOUTHWEST AIRLINES

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 14, 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, as the representative of the 30th Congressional District of Texas, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of Mr. Herb Kelleher, CEO of Southwest Airlines.

Herb Kelleher was one of a kind. He embodied the colorful spirit and joyful nature of the airline he cofounded. He exuded this bright personality whether he was on television, in a room full of people, or speaking to just one individual. Beyond instilling the value of fun in his company, he revolutionized air travel by making the low-cost, low-fare airline accessible for many Americans.

Born in New Jersey, he studied English and philosophy at Wesleyan University and then law at New York University. It was his wife, Joan, whom he met on a blind date, who persuaded him to set up a law firm in Texas. Southwest Airlines was born not on the back of a cocktail napkin as he later liked to boast, but when one of his legal clients, Rollin King, owner of a small commuter airline, and his banker, John Parker, came to his office. Both men found travelling between the cities of Houston, Dallas and San Antonio inconvenient and expensive and thought they could do it better. With Herb Kelleher's help, they succeeded.