

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

MARKING THE PASSING OF THOMAS DUNCAN

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor the life of a dedicated former House employee, Thomas G. Duncan, who passed away on January 16, 2019 in Fairfax, Virginia.

Tom was born June 10, 1952, in Long Beach, California, to Thomas Owen Duncan and Keith Anne Gamble Duncan and grew up in Dallas, Texas and Birmingham, Michigan. He graduated from the College of William and Mary in 1974 and the University of Virginia School of Law in 1978. Following his graduation from law school, Tom began a distinguished thirty-year career in public service in the House of Representatives. He began his work in the House in 1979 as an Assistant Parliamentarian and rose to serve as a Deputy Parliamentarian for ten years. He went on to serve with distinction as a staff member on the House Committee on Financial Services, serving as general counsel to chairman from both parties, where he consistently demonstrated his deep commitment to upholding the integrity of our institution, and advancing progress for the American people.

In his more than three decades of non-partisan service to the House, Tom always brought the highest level of professionalism and dedication to the table. He earned the respect of Members and staff alike for his encyclopedic memory of facts and dates, and his great intellect and critical willingness to hear arguments from all sides. His unflappable demeanor delivered calm to many hard-fought battles waged by the House's most energetic and colorful Members.

Tom's many friends will always remember his great love of sports, especially his fondness for the Tigers, the Wahoos and the Washington Nationals. One never wanted to be on the opposite side of a sports trivia contest with Tom, but all will remember him as a gentleman who allowed his opponents to lose with grace. Tom could reveal a mischievous streak when it was needed most by his colleagues, best and most memorably displayed in his creation of the Hershberger Award during his days at the College of William and Mary.

Tom is survived by his beloved wife of 37 years, Alison, his two daughters, Katharine Duncan (Brent DePuy) and Taylor Duncan, and his granddaughter, Elizabeth DePuy.

The House is grateful for Tom's contributions over his thirty-year career in our institution. May it be a comfort to Tom's loved ones that so many grieve with and pray for them at this sad time.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DIONNE BAGSBY

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor the life of a dear friend and true role model, Dionne Bagsby. Her advocacy and public service to Fort Worth pioneered the growth and development that we see in the community today.

Dionne was a trailblazer for minorities and women in the city of Fort Worth. With her dynamic personality and straight talk, she was able to break unprecedented racial and gender barriers throughout her life and career.

Dionne was the first woman and African-American to be elected to the Tarrant County Commissioners Court. During her tenure on the court, she hired the first Tarrant County African-American precinct administrator and greatly enhanced minority employment and participation at the county level. When she retired from the commissioner's court in 2005, the Texas Legislature honored her community service in a resolution stating, "a distinguished 16-year tenure that has been characterized by integrity and excellence."

Even after her retirement, she refused to stand on the sidelines. She always encouraged young women to speak with confidence and helped them aspire to careers that challenged the norm. Dionne served with a purpose, making it her mission to leave Fort Worth a better place than she found it.

Dionne Bagsby leaves behind a legacy that will impact and empower not only the Fort Worth community but the state of Texas for generations to come. I am lucky to have known someone as inspirational and dynamic as Dionne.

My thoughts are with her family during this difficult time.

COMMEMORATING "BLACK JANUARY"

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 29th anniversary of the "Black January" killings which is one of the most tragic events in Azerbaijan's history.

On the night of January 20, 1990, approximately 26,000 Soviet troops stormed Azerbaijan's capital city of Baku in tanks and armored vehicles. That night, the Soviet military bulldozed innocent Azerbaijanis and opened indiscriminate fire on peaceful demonstrators, including women and children. As a result of these merciless acts 147 people were killed, around 800 were injured, 841 were arrested, and 5 went missing.

The Human Rights Watch report "Black January in Azerbaijan" states that "among the most heinous violations of human rights during the Baku incursion were the numerous attacks on medical personnel, ambulances, and even hospitals." The report concludes that the violence used by the Soviet Army constituted an exercise in collective punishment and that the punishment inflicted on Baku by Soviet soldiers may have been intended as a warning to nationalists, not only in Azerbaijan, but in other Republics of the Soviet Union. I offer my thoughts and prayers to the families of those who gave their lives for the independence of Azerbaijan.

The United States and Azerbaijan are strategic allies and share common interests in the region and globally. I commend Azerbaijan's contributions to the security of the United States.

As the co-chairman of the Congressional Azerbaijan Caucus, I urge my colleagues to recognize the sacrifices of the Azerbaijani people in their steps toward a free market economy and encourage a commitment to the democratic values for which many Azerbaijanis sacrificed their lives.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MERAMEC REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 50th Anniversary of the Meramec Regional Planning Commission (MRPC), officially established on January 23, 1969, by Governor Warren E. Hearnes. The first Board of Directors elected by MRPC were Salem Mayor Jack Masters as chairman; Leon Camillo, representative from Potosi, as vice chairman; Cuba Mayor John Brummet as secretary; and Vienna Mayor Travis John as treasurer. The scope of work has changed over the years, but the overall mission remains the same: To enhance the quality of life for the Meramec Region.

The MRPC, currently serving the counties of Crawford, Dent, Gasconade, Maries, Osage, Phelps and Pulaski, built a strong reputation throughout the area for its work in grant writing, economic development, community and emergency planning, small business loan assistance, housing rental assistance, and legislative advocacy on behalf of the region. These services are especially vital to small communities that often do not have the resources to compete with larger cities for grant funding.

I congratulate MRPC on this milestone anniversary and appreciate the vital role they play in the quality of life in the Meramec Region. Today, it is my great privilege to recognize the Meramec Regional Planning Commission before the United States House of Representatives.

• 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.

IN HONOR OF MS. FRANCES
TANKERSLEY

HON. LANCE GOODEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mr. GOODEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Frances Tankersley as the oldest active member of First United Methodist Church of Terrell, Texas celebrating her seventy-second year at the age of 97.

Born to Charles and Leah Deen of Emory, Texas on November 22, 1921, Frances was raised in Sweetwater and received a bachelor's degree from Texas Tech University. She met her future husband Dennis Tankersley at the United Service Organization in Lubbock. Dennis was stationed at the South Plains Army Airfield and had been a pilot in the Second World War. Upon their marriage, they moved to Terrell and began a life together raising two sons, Jim and Greg.

Her tenure at the Terrell Independent School District left all members of the community with a strong appreciation of her selflessness. Ms. Tankersley was a home economics teacher and a special education department supervisor. Additionally, she taught Sunday school at the kindergarten level at First United Methodist for many years and fostered the development of generations in our community. To this day Ms. Tankersley is involved in Relay for Life and volunteers for Meals on Wheels delivering hot lunches to those in need. She is known throughout Terrell for her kindred spirit and affectionate curiosity, as well as her love of golf and her weekly bridge matches.

Ms. Tankersley still resides in Terrell where she has been an active member of her community for decades and drives herself to her beloved church each Sunday. May her commitment to service, faith and community be an example for all of us.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON ESTES

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mr. ESTES. Madam Speaker, I was not present for Roll Call vote No. 44 on H.R. 676. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE JOHNSON

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 43, MTR for H.J. Res. 28.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID LOEBACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mr. LOEBACK. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote on January 22, 2019 due to weather, but I strongly support the NATO Support Act. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 44, and YEA on Roll Call No. 45.

HONORING MR. ALBERT BURSTEIN

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the many outstanding achievements of Mr. Albert Burstein. I recognize the many contributions he has made to the people of the Ninth Congressional District and the State of New Jersey.

Expressing the influence of Mr. Albert Burstein to our community and country is an honor. A Columbia graduate, lawyer, political reformer, state legislator and World War II veteran, Mr. Burstein stands as an example to us all. As a member of our Greatest Generation, Albert was present for many of our country's greatest challenges. It gives me great pleasure to add my personal appreciation and commendation for all that he has done.

Born on November 22, 1922, to Julius and Hannah Burstein, Albert's story begins with his family in Jersey City, New Jersey. Julius and Hannah were immigrants from Poland and Albert spoke highly of their willingness and bravery to start a new life here in the United States. I know Albert was a source of great pride flourishing in the new country they called home. Let his experience be another success story to others in pursuit of the American Dream.

On December 7, 1941, the attack on Pearl Harbor would change the lives of many Americans, Albert Burstein included. A student in his junior year at Columbia University, Albert was cognizant of the looming threat in Europe. However, the attack on Pearl Harbor would postpone his studies at Columbia University and on May 8, 1943 Albert would be dispatched to Wheeler, Georgia for basic training.

While a recruit, Albert was enrolled in the Army Specialized Training Program (ASTP). Assigned to study German history and language, Mr. Burstein was temporarily transferred to the University of Nebraska to complete his training. This endeavor would be short lived since the growing demand in Europe would abruptly end many of the U.S. Army's training programs. Moved between Louisiana and Mississippi for advanced infantry training, in the period of a month Albert was in Cherbourg, France.

Enduring the rigors of war, Albert served our country for thirty-three months in active duty. For Albert's valiant efforts in WWII, he was honored with the Bronze Star and named to the French Legion of Honor for his service in France. Albert Burstein answered the call and came home safely. WWII is one of the greatest challenges our nation has ever faced, and

Albert Burstein stands as a great American who answered the call to duty.

Returning to civilian life, Albert reenrolled in Columbia University where he would meet his wife Ruth and complete his education with a law degree. Albert and Ruth would marry in December of 1950 and have three beautiful children together, Jeffrey, Diane and Laura. Living in Jersey City, Mr. Burstein established Wolf Baumann and Burstein, a place where he would work for thirty years. While living in Jersey City, Albert would get his first taste for politics starting an independent committee aimed at addressing the needs of the city and its people. Nevertheless, Albert and Ruth would move to Tenafly, New Jersey after determining they wanted to move to a quiet town.

Living in Bergen County, Albert would establish himself as a political authority. Holding office in the New Jersey State Legislature for ten years, Mr. Burstein would represent the 37th legislative district. As an Assemblyman, Mr. Burstein would serve as the Assembly Majority leader and advance many important causes during his time as a public servant. Presiding on the New Jersey Election Law Revision Committee and the Law Revision Commission, Assemblyman Burstein championed efforts to reform New Jersey's election and public financing laws.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to working with and recognizing the efforts of dedicated individuals like Mr. Albert Burstein.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, family, friends and the residents of the Ninth Congressional District in recognizing, Mr. Albert Burstein and his outstanding character and service to his country and community.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF ELIZABETH "BETSY" S. LUCIDO

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Mrs. Elizabeth "Betsy" S. Lucido, who passed away on January 12, 2019 at the age of 75. Betsy will be remembered as a loving wife, mother and for her devotion to God. Betsy cared for many families in need and was a pillar in our community. Her dedication to our Valley will be remembered for years to come.

Betsy was born on August 8, 1943 in Cleveland, Ohio to Howard & Irene Tripp. Her family later relocated to Fresno, California, where she attended St. Therese Elementary School and the Convent of the Sacred Heart of Menlo Park High School as a resident student. After high school, she attended the University of San Diego, where she met the love of her life William "Bill" Lucido. Betsy and Bill married in Fresno on June 6, 1964. They were blessed with four daughters, Maribeth, Anne, Kate and Monica.

Betsy radiated a "motherly charm" and was known for her generosity, family values and caring personality. Betsy served her community in a number of ways. She was a board member of the Central California Adoption

Services—Infant of Prague, Right to Life of Central California and the Ministers of Presence Guild of Catholic Charities. One accomplishment she was particularly proud of was her role in the founding of Catholic Charities, an organization which serves the needs of those in crisis by providing food for the hungry and hope for the weary. Betsy saw her work as an extension of one's home and love for God. She was always willing to give a helping hand and recognized everyone as a unique child of God.

Betsy's active work in the Fresno community has not gone unnoticed. She was honored by the Fresno County Women's Chamber of Commerce as the "Fresno County Mother of the Year" in 1998. In 2012, Betsy and Bill were the 2012 honorees at the Right to Life of Central California annual celebration dinner.

Betsy is survived by her husband Bill and daughters, Maribeth, Anne, Katie and Monica. She leaves behind her grandchildren Maxwell, Hemy, Logan, Paige, Lindsey, Grace and Corbin, and many close friends.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Elizabeth "Betsy" S. Lucido. Betsy leaves behind a remarkable legacy of love and selflessness, which helped change the lives of countless men and women in our community. It is my honor to stand with Betsy's family in celebration of her great life.

HONORING GIRLS SCOUTS OF CONNECTICUT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Girl Scouts of Connecticut, and everyone who supports the Girl Scouts of the United States of America. Participating in Girl Scouts helps prepare young women to lead.

I include in the RECORD this letter, written by Girl Scouts Connecticut CEO Ms. Mary Barneby and originally published in the New Haven Register:

GIRL SCOUTS LEADER EXPRESSES THANKS

(By Ms. Mary Barneby, Girl Scouts of Connecticut CEO)

The recently ended holiday season is a time for giving, reflection, and expressing gratitude for all we have been given. I know that I am thankful for everyone who has supported our Mission at Girl Scouts of Connecticut. Because of you, over 26,000 Girl Scouts in our state are thriving and building the skills they need to change the world.

At Girl Scouts, we put every ounce of passion and energy into ensuring a bright and equitable future for girls. It's important now more than ever that we support and pave the way for girls and women. We've definitely seen some progress: this past election season, more women ran for public office and more women went to the polls to share their voice and vote.

Girl Scouts prepares girls for life, and recent stats from the election prove that fact. In the 116th Congress, 17 out of the 23 women in the U.S. Senate are Girl Scouts alum, and 57 percent of women representatives in the House of Representatives are Girl Scouts alums, including our own Jahana Hayes, the first African American woman from Connecticut elected to Congress!

At Girl Scouts, you become part of a global sisterhood for girls to take action, lead the way, explore the unknown, and change the world. We offer each girl unique and unparalleled opportunities to pursue what she care about, whether its technology, sports, the arts, environmentalism, and more. No matter her passion, Girl Scouts helps her live it out.

Again, thank you to everyone who helped support girls and women this year. I wish you and yours happy holidays, and look forward to having more join us in the New Year.

SHUTDOWN IMPACTS ON AN IL-09 CONSTITUENT

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to include in the RECORD a letter from Antonio, a constituent of mine affected by this shutdown:

"I am an air traffic controller at O'Hare. This is already a stressful job, but a job that I love. This shutdown is adding an extra layer of stress to all of the controllers across the country. Our day off are the time that we have to decompress from work and focus on mitigating stress. With the shutdown going past a month, we are stressing about bills, how to put food on the table, how to pay for childcare, etc. We don't have the luxury of escaping from the stress of the job, because we come to the stress of worrying.

Finding out that our vision and dental benefits would be billed to us, with the expectation that we pay out of pocket, despite not having a paycheck for over a month, has only added to that stress. This shutdown is going to be a massive safety risk for the flying public if it doesn't end soon.

Controllers will retire or quit to find another source of income. It would be heart-breaking to have to leave this job, that I love so much, because I had to find a way to feed my family. It would mean a lot to me if there was any way this could be distributed to the other members of Congress. I feel it is a very important message for them all to see."

Everyday this week, I will be coming to the House floor to tell stories of everyday people who are affected by this Trump 1 Shutdown. It is time for President Trump to re-open the government and pay the hard-working Americans serving their country through public service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON ESTES

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mr. ESTES. Madam Speaker, I was not present for Roll Call vote No. 45 on H.R. 328. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

TRIBUTE TO CRAIG W. FLOYD

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate my good friend Craig W. Floyd on

his retirement after thirty-four years of service as the founding Chief Executive Officer of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund. Craig retired at the end of 2018 and leaves behind a powerful legacy of service to the men and women of law enforcement across our nation. I have been proud to work closely with Craig over the years on a cause about which we both care very deeply: honoring those who have fallen while protecting our communities.

Craig helped launch the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund in 1984, partnering with his former boss—and my friend—former Rep. Mario Biaggi of New York and others to establish a permanent memorial in Washington. In 1991, the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial was unveiled, and it now preserves the names of 21,541 law enforcement officers who gave their lives in the line of duty. It stands as a powerful reminder to the millions of visitors to the nation's capital of the service and sacrifices of those keeping them safe back home and in every community. In 2018, the National Law Enforcement Museum was opened near the memorial to tell the stories of the men and women whose names are borne upon its walls.

Craig was instrumental in bringing this vision to completion and establishing the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial and the National Law Enforcement Museum. Under his guidance, the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund launched the world's most comprehensive database of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty; published To Serve and Protect—a Tribute to American Law Enforcement; built partnerships with the Department of Justice and Department of Transportation to promote officers' safety and wellbeing; and inaugurated the tradition of holding annual candlelight vigils during National Police Week in May. In many ways, these all stand not only to pay homage to the men and women of law enforcement but also as a lasting tribute to citizens like Craig W. Floyd who dedicated their careers to honoring and aiding these heroes.

I hope my colleagues will join me in thanking Craig for his service and wishing him well in his retirement. I encourage everyone to visit the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial and the National Law Enforcement Museum in our nation's capital to learn about the service of those who put their lives on the line to protect our communities every day.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. RONALD WAYNE MERTHIE

HON. STEPHANIE N. MURPHY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mrs. MURPHY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of a spiritual leader in my central Florida community, Dr. Ronald Merthie, who recently passed away.

A proud son of Seminole County, Dr. Merthie attended Crooms High School, where he was elected class president. He went to Texas Southern University on an athletic scholarship and, upon graduation, returned home to become a teacher, assistant principal, and coach.

Dr. Merthie struggled with substance abuse for a period of time. But he found strength and redemption through faith, overcoming personal hardship, serving as a role model to others, and becoming a pillar of his community.

Dr. Merthie's life was filled with action and achievement. He established the New Life Word Center Church, offered spiritual guidance on a weekly broadcast, and empowered the next generation by founding a K-through-12 school.

It was Dr. King who said that "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'"

Dr. Merthie devoted his life to serving others. He lead a good life in the most meaningful sense of the term. He will be deeply missed.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this exceptional man and offering our condolences to his family and all those whose lives he touched.

INTRODUCTION OF THE VA MEDICINAL CANNABIS RESEARCH ACT

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I have met with multiple veterans in my congressional district who attest to the therapeutic benefits of medical cannabis in managing their pain.

According to the American Legion, a significant number of veterans across the country—not just in my district—are currently using medical cannabis as an alternative treatment. With so many veterans using cannabis for therapeutic purposes, it is important that physicians have the information and research necessary to fully advise on the potential impacts of medical cannabis usage on post-traumatic stress and chronic pain. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs is uniquely positioned to pursue that vital research.

To that end, I am introducing the bipartisan VA Medicinal Cannabis Research Act, which requires VA to conduct clinical research on the safety and effectiveness of medical cannabis, in varying forms and delivery methods, for treating veterans diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and veterans with chronic pain. The legislation requires VA to submit annual reports to Congress on the implementation of this bill for five years. The VA Medicinal Cannabis Research Act is a pragmatic and sensible approach to the need for additional research and could potentially save veterans' lives.

CONGRATULATING MR. JOHN ELLIOTT

HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. John Elliott on retiring from his position as Vice President and Senior Trust Officer of 1st Source Bank in Warsaw, Indiana. For nearly fifty years, John has served the northeast Indiana community with

distinction as an engaged citizen, cherished friend, and valued trust officer.

John graduated with a business degree from The Ohio State University in 1966, and immediately began his storied career as a trust officer at First National Bank of Warsaw. To further his education, John enrolled at the ABA Graduate School of Banking at the University of Wisconsin, as well as the National Graduate Trust School at Northwestern University. John also spent countless hours consuming information at the Warsaw Public Library, with the ultimate goal of providing the best customer service possible.

Using his foundation in academia, John Elliott devoted himself to his clients, ensuring they made sound decisions that would provide future financial security. John built a reputation for honesty, integrity and service. He was known as someone who could be counted on, day or night, to provide exceptional support. When First National Bank was purchased by National City Bank, John partnered with Steve Wessell to open a 1st Source Personal Trust Office where he continued to serve clients with honesty and integrity.

John has held numerous board positions and is a longtime member of the Warsaw Educational Foundation, Right to Life Advisory Board, and the Warsaw Plan Commission. In 2008, John Elliott was awarded the Earnestine M. Raclin Lifetime Achievement Award, and the Warsaw/Kosciusko County Man of the Year for his service to the community. In 2018, he was awarded Optimist of the Year by the Warsaw Optimist Club.

I wish John, his wife Elaine, and their family all the best in this new chapter of life. Warsaw, Indiana thanks him for over 50 years of dedication and service.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ENDING CORPORAL PUNISHMENT IN SCHOOLS ACT OF 2019

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Ending Corporal Punishment in Schools Act of 2019.

This bill would prohibit any educational institution from receiving federal funding that allows school personnel to inflict corporal punishment on students and creates grants to encourage improvements in schools, which promote positive behaviors.

Madam Speaker, corporal punishment is a form of physical punishment where someone deliberately inflicts pain on another individual in order to punish them. In schools, it includes the spanking or paddling of children by school officials.

Although corporal punishment in schools has certainly been part of this country's history, it has been a blemish on that history and must end immediately. In addition to the fact that there is no conclusive evidence that corporal punishment mollifies disruptive behavior, it is disproportionately used against African American students and children with disabilities. These punishments can result in physical as well as emotional harm to children.

Schools must be a safe place where students are protected from harm, so that they

are able to thrive, grow, and learn. Sadly, 19 states still allow corporal punishments in school. Last year, more than 100,000 students were physically punished by being hit, slapped, and spanked. This is completely unacceptable.

Madam Speaker, schools must be a safe space for our children to learn. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this critically important bill, and hope to see its swift passage very soon.

CONGRATULATING GREG POHLMAN ON HIS INDUCTION INTO THE ILLINOIS HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Greg Pohlman, who is being inducted into the Illinois High School Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame. Mr. Pohlman served Carrollton Community High School for 40 years as a coach, teacher and athletic director.

Mr. Pohlman retired from his post as the baseball coach at Carrollton in 2016 after a long, successful career where he tallied up over 500 career wins. Under his leadership, the Carrollton Hawks went on to win the 2011 Illinois High School Association Class 1A State Championship following a 31 win season. This championship season gave Mr. Pohlman the record for most wins in a single season and is an outstanding coaching achievement. Mr. Pohlman's accomplishments demonstrate not only his extensive knowledge of the game, but also his commitment to the students he coached. Throughout his tenure, Mr. Pohlman rightfully earned a reputation of being a great role model to young student athletes and someone who truly gave his all to allow students to compete and learn to the best of their abilities. However, his impact went beyond the sports he coached—throughout all of his years as a teacher and coach, he tried to instill in his students and athletes the importance of being productive members of our society. Mr. Pohlman is an exceptional leader in our community and it is fitting that his years of service are being recognized in this way.

It is because of dedicated leaders such as Greg Pohlman that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Greg Pohlman on his well-earned induction into the Baseball Coaches' Hall of Fame and thank him for all of his service to the community.

HONORING GLEN WOOD

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I offer these remarks in honor of Glen Wood, a founder of the legendary Wood Brothers

NASCAR racing team, who died on January 18, 2019 at the age of 93. Glen Wood was a giant of auto racing, an owner and driver on the longest-running team in NASCAR history.

Stock car racing has a long and storied heritage in Southwest and Southside Virginia, and Glen Wood, a native of Stuart in Patrick County, made notable contributions of his own to the sport. A trip to Daytona Beach in 1947 fired Mr. Wood's passion for racing, but he earned his place in racing history three years later when he founded Wood Brothers Racing with his brother Leonard. As he recalled to the Associated Press, "We started racing in 1950 with a car we bought for \$50. We put No. 50 on the side of the car because it just seemed like the right thing to do."

Wood Brothers Racing eventually changed the number to 21, and they became a powerhouse, winning 99 victories in over 1,500 starts in NASCAR's top division. Glen Wood earned four of them himself as a driver. Many of the others were won by some of the sport's greatest competitors, including Cale Yarborough, Curtis Turner, A.J. Foyt, and David Pearson, driving for the Wood Brothers team. The Wood Brothers also brought innovation to the pit stop, drastically reducing its average length. These accomplishments garnered Glen Wood many accolades, including a place in the NASCAR Hall of Fame and recognition as one of NASCAR's 50 Greatest Drivers.

Glen Wood was known for his success on the race track and for his gentlemanly demeanor off it. In his later years, he could be found at the Wood Brothers Racing Museum in Stuart greeting fans with his wife Bernece. Wood Brothers Racing remains a family business to this day, with Glen's oldest son Eddie now its president. Glen Wood was a towering figure in auto racing, and his legacy still endures. I offer my condolences to Mr. Wood's family on their loss.

IN MEMORY OF REDD REYNOLDS

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, last week South Carolina paid deserved tribute to the late Redd Reynolds who was appreciated as the "South Carolina Bob Hope" of the National Guard. I include in the RECORD his thoughtful obituary, which was published January 15th in The State newspaper.

LEXINGTON.—Clarence T. "Redd" Reynolds, 91, went home to be with the Lord on Sunday January 13, 2019. The son of the late Henry and Lottie Reynolds, Redd was born Jan. 17, 1927 and grew up in Lexington, South Carolina, where he attended Lexington schools. He honorably served in the 78th Division of the United States Army in World War II and with the Armed Forces Radio Network. Following World War II, Redd attended Newberry College and, most importantly, married the beautiful Doris Rawl on Aug. 26, 1950.

Redd became a prominent radio personality and broadcaster at WBLR 1430 AM in Batesburg. As a result of his ties in the broadcasting industry and his patriotism, he and Doris created Caravan of Stars, a traveling music and dance group that entertained troops at military bases in Georgia,

Virginia and Mississippi. Redd was considered the Bob Hope of the National Guard, producing and directing shows for more than 30 years. In 1987 he was honored with the Order of the Palmetto by Gov. Carroll Campbell.

Redd was a committed member of American Legion Post 7 for more than five decades, dedicating his time and talents to the cultivation of his beloved community. He made significant contributions to the Palmetto Boys and Girls State programs, as well as American Legion Post 7 baseball. He also served on Lexington Medical Center's board of trustees from 1978 to 1987.

In 2012, Redd was thrilled to be selected for the Honor Flight program, joining other South Carolina World War II veterans on a trip to visit war memorials in Washington, D.C.

Redd was a vibrant member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Lexington, serving with Lutheran Men in Mission and as a Sunday School teacher, Young at Heart member and church council member. He and Doris also teamed tirelessly to care for the grounds of St. John's. If it was happening in God's house, Redd participated.

Surviving Redd are his wife of 68 years, Doris; children Terry (Anne) Reynolds, Phil (Janice) Reynolds, Jandell (Richard) Morrison and Barry (Jeanne) Reynolds; grandchildren Clay (Lindsey) Reynolds, Justin (Rachel) Reynolds, David (Ann Marie) Reynolds, Macaulay Morrison and Caroline Morrison; and great-grandchildren Cale, Jack Wyatt and Amelia Reynolds. Redd was predeceased by his two sisters, Betty Hutto and Pauline Salter.

The family will receive friends and the community at Barr-Price Funeral Home and Crematorium, Lexington Chapel from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 15, 2019. A celebration of life and interment will be held at St. John's Lutheran Church 3:00 p.m. Wednesday January 16, 2019. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to St. John's Lutheran Church or to the Redd and Doris Family ROTC Grant-in-Aid at Clemson University. (Mail to Deborah Towery, Clemson University Foundation, P.O. Box. 1889, Clemson, SC. 29633.)

HONORING RABBI EPHRAIM SIMON OF TEANECK

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the outstanding and selfless achievements of Rabbi Ephraim Simon.

Rabbi Simon is the director of Chabad of Teaneck, New Jersey. As a rabbi, he has focused his studies on the three intellectual divisions of wisdom, comprehension, and knowledge but also a great focus on responsibility and love. For some, these may just seem like religious principles, but to Rabbi Simon they are more than that: they are guiding outlines for how to live one's life that he emphasizes every day in service to his community.

Rabbi Simon's commitment to community and charity was evident in 2009 when the rabbi selflessly donated one of his kidneys to a total stranger. This noble act saved the life of a father of 10. Because of Rabbi Simon's generosity, he inspired others in the Teaneck community to follow in his footsteps and register as organ donors.

Rabbi Simon could have stopped there, but he did not. Nearly a decade later he saved yet another stranger's life. Enduring a difficult surgery, on December 20, 2018 Rabbi Simon donated a third of his liver to Adam Levitz, a father of three suffering from critical liver failure. This act of goodness has given Mr. Levitz a new chance at life.

To give a kidney or a liver is an act very few can say they have done, to have given both to complete strangers is an act of generosity unknown to nearly all of us. The rarity of these procedures is not only due to a requirement of great courage and selflessness, but also due to the great physical risks they carry for the health of the donor. Donating part of one's liver, when one also only has one kidney, has such risks of complications that Rabbi Simon and Mr. Levitz could only find one clinic in the country who would perform the procedure.

Rabbi Simon's inspiring acts are done not for publicity, but out of a desire to inspire others to have a positive impact on those around them. In the words of Rabbi Simon, "a rabbi's greatest lesson is how he lives his life."

Madam Speaker, Rabbi Simon's selfless acts serve as an inspiration not just to his wife and nine children, but also to the community in Northern New Jersey and across our country. Rabbi Simon deserves great respect for his deeds.

To honor Rabbi Simon and his acts, I wish to recognize his commitments to saving lives and improving the world around him.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 44, and YEA on Roll Call No. 45.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, on January 22, 2019, I missed recorded votes No. 44 and No. 45 due to travel delays.

Had I been present, on Roll Call No. 44, I would have voted YEA (Passage of H.R. 328); and on Roll Call No. 45, I would have voted YEA (Passage of H.R. 676).

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote on January 22, 2019 for Roll Call Vote 44 and Roll Call Vote 45. Had I been present, my vote would have been the following: "yea" on Roll Call Vote 44 and "yea" on 45.

TRIBUTE TO THE STAFF OF THE CAPITAL GAZETTE, RECOGNIZED AMONG TIME MAGAZINE'S PERSON OF THE YEAR HONOREES

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay a heartfelt tribute to the men and women of the Capital Gazette. The staff at the daily paper, based in Annapolis and covering news across Anne Arundel County and the surrounding area, were recognized last month by TIME as one of its 'Person of the Year' honorees. They joined murdered Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi; Maria Ressa, a reporter in the Philippines working to expose corruption amid the country's drug war; and Burmese journalists Kyaw Soe Oo and Wa Lone, imprisoned for covering the plight of Rohingya refugees. TIME's award focused on the dangers facing journalists as they seek to fulfill their role as 'guardians' of truth. At the Capital Gazette, that danger took the form of a deadly mass shooting on June 28, 2018, which killed five employees and injured several others.

On that tragic day, a gunman entered the Capital Gazette offices in Annapolis and took the lives of Gerald Fischman, Rob Hiaasen, John McNamara, Wendi Winters, and Rebecca Smith. It was a targeted attack by a mentally disturbed individual who should never have been able to acquire dangerous firearms. The attack came after months of vitriol leveled at the press, where reporters were called 'enemy of the people' and lambasted as purveyors of 'fake news.' To their credit, even after this deadly shooting took the lives of their friends and colleagues and after having to endure threats targeted at them and other journalists, the staff of the Capital Gazette continued their important work of reporting the news to the people of Maryland and released an edition of the paper the very next day. They would not be deterred from their mission, so critical to our open and deliberative democracy.

Madam Speaker, I hope all of the Members of this House will join me in congratulating the Capital Gazette and thanking its staff for the hard work they do every day—as well as all the members of the press who are risking danger to report the news. We must continue to stand up for the freedom of the press, which is critical to the liberty of our people and to all nations around the world.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOSH HARDER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mr. HARDER. Madam Speaker, I missed these votes because of travel delay.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 44, and YEA on Roll Call No. 45.

CONGRATULATING THE SAUK VALLEY AREA OF COMMERCE ON RECEIVING A FIVE-STAR ACCREDITATION FROM THE UNITED STATES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Sauk Valley Area Chamber of Commerce on receiving a Five-Star Accreditation from the United States Chamber of Commerce. The Sauk Valley Area Chamber of Commerce was one of 120 chambers across the nation to receive this accreditation this past year.

Founded in 1912, the Sauk Valley Area Chamber of Commerce has gone on to develop their organization's abilities into one of the finest in the nation. The Sauk Valley Area Chamber of Commerce represents many communities across both Illinois and Iowa, where they work to expand economic opportunities in the region. With this accreditation, it is clear the Sauk Valley Area will continue to benefit from the efforts of this organization as we begin the new year. I am impressed by the work they have done to improve the well-being of local businesses across our region and congratulate them on a job well done. As we look to the future, I am eager to see how the Sauk Valley Area Chamber of Commerce builds upon this distinction and uses it to expand upon their successes and continue to improve the local business community. A strong workforce is key to a strong community, and this five-star recognition speaks volumes to that commitment.

It is because of groups such as the Sauk Valley Area Chamber of Commerce that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate the Sauk Valley Area Chamber of Commerce on its five-star accreditation and thank them for their service to our community.

CONGRATULATING TONY ANDERSON FOR RECEIVING THE 2018 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it's my honor to recognize Tony Anderson for receiving the 2018 Distinguished Service Award from the Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce. Through his exceptional leadership and steadfast devotion to his community, Tony has become an indispensable part of Northern Michigan.

Since 1929, the Distinguished Service Award has been given to leaders who have had a tremendously positive impact on the Traverse City area. Through his decades of service to his community, Tony has shown himself to be more than deserving of this honor. Through his Marathon4Kids organization, Tony has completed 43 marathons in 43 states and raised more than \$400,000 for Big

Brothers Big Sisters of Northwest Michigan. This year, he plans on running in Mississippi, Idaho, Kansas, and New Mexico as a part of his mission to complete marathons in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Tony's determination has been previously recognized on multiple occasions, including being named "Volunteer of the Year" at the 2012 Michigan Governor's Service Awards. In addition to his work with Marathon4Kids, Tony has served as a volunteer firefighter, an emergency medical technician, and as a key member of the Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, he is the former president of the Freedom Builders—a faith-based organization that provides housing assistance to the local community. The impact of his work in Traverse City and across Michigan cannot be understated.

Madam Speaker, it's my honor to congratulate Tony Anderson for receiving the 2018 Distinguished Service Award. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing the First District is home to such a selfless leader. On behalf of my constituents, I wish Tony all the best in his future endeavors.

DIRECTING SECRETARY OF STATE TO DEVELOP STRATEGY TO REGAIN OBSERVER STATUS FOR TAIWAN IN WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

SPEECH OF

HON. TED S. YOHO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 22, 2019

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 353, my bill that directs the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to regain observer status for Taiwan in the World Health Organization.

I would first like to thank Chairman ENGEL and Ranking Member McCAUL for working with my team to bring this great legislation to the floor. From 2009 to 2016, Taiwan attended the World Health Assembly, the World Health Organization's annual summit, under the status of an observer. However, following the election of Taiwan's current President Tsai Ing-wen, the People's Republic of China has stepped up its campaign to marginalize Taiwan's participation in the international community. In 2017 and 2018, due to increased political pressure from the People's Republic of China, Taiwan did not receive an invitation to the World Health Assembly.

Taiwan's exclusion from the World Health Assembly, serves no purpose other than to placate Beijing's insecurity. The World Health Organization exists to address shared transnational health challenges, and Taiwan has proven time and again that it is a model contributor to world health. Since 1996, Taiwan has invested over \$6 billion in international medical and humanitarian aid efforts impacting over 80 countries.

The United States and the U.S. Congress have long supported Taiwan's participation in international organizations, and this legislation will continue this important work. My bill will help ensure that the U.S. diplomatic strategy to advocate for Taiwan's presence at the World Health Assembly adapts to Beijing's increased efforts to box out Taiwan. A similar

bill, which I introduced in the 115th Congress, passed the House with unanimous support.

Taiwan is a benevolent actor on the international stage, and it deserves to keep the place it has earned. The next World Health Assembly will take place in May of this year. Passage of my bill will be a timely opportunity for the House to recommit to longstanding U.S. policy, and take a firm stand in the face of Beijing's increasingly oppressive tactics. I urge my colleagues to support Taiwan's participation in the World Health Organization as an observer by supporting this legislation.

SENIOR BISHOP MCKINLEY YOUNG

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mr. LEWIS. Madam Speaker, I am saddened to share that my friend passed away last week. I rise today with a heavy heart to recognize Senior Bishop McKinley Young, who served as the 109th Bishop from Big Bethel AME Church in Atlanta since 1992.

One of the beloved sons of Atlanta, he was a man of the people and for the people. After completing his studies in Atlanta's public schools, Bishop Young continued his education by earning degrees from Morris Brown College, Andover Newton Theological School, and the University of Chicago Divinity School. An additional six institutions of higher education recognized him with honorary doctorate degrees.

Over the years, the Bishop pastored in Providence, Rhode Island, Chicago and Evanston, Illinois, but Atlanta was always home. In our community, he was committed to the souls of his congregants and service to our society.

Throughout Metro Atlanta, Bishop Young initiated voter registration, education, mobilization, which led to a day of action at the Georgia State Capitol. He was an active supporter of the African Methodist Episcopal Church Service and Development Agency (AME-SADA) for over 20 years and most recently served as chair of the board. Bishop Young also served as the president of the Council of Bishops and the General Board and chaired the Commissions on Women in Ministry, Global Witness and Ministry, Annuity Investments and Insurance, and the Commission on Church Growth and Development.

This great man spoke up and spoke out on behalf of those who had no one to speak for them. Bishop Young worked tirelessly to give hope and opportunity to those, who were left out and left behind. He ministered to those who were lost in the wilderness of despair. In my heart of hearts I know that the impact of his prophetic leadership will be felt by generations yet unborn.

Madam Speaker, today, I offer my deepest condolences to his loving wife, Dorothy Jackson Young; children, Karyn (Ron) Young-Lowe, Deana (Julius) McAllister, Andrea (Roderick) Jones and Stephanie Lynn Young; grandchildren, Jennifer Renee and Jessica Christina Lowe, Julius III, Colin and Dylan McAllister, Peyton, Noah and Miles Jones. I thank them for sharing this "faithful giant" with us.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Paperwork Reduction Act to eliminate the wasteful congressional review process for legislation passed by the District of Columbia Council and to align longtime congressional practice and the law. The congressional review process for D.C. bills is almost entirely ignored by Congress, providing it no benefit, but imposes substantial costs (in time and money) on the District. Congress has almost always used the appropriations process, rather than the disapproval process, to block or nullify D.C. bills and entirely abandoned the congressional review process as its mechanism for nullifying D.C. bills 24 years ago, having only used it three times before then. Yet Congress still requires the D.C. Council to use Kafkaesque make-work procedures to comply with the abandoned congressional review process established by the D.C. Home Rule Act.

Our bill would eliminate the congressional review process for bills passed by the D.C. Council. However, Congress would lose no authority it currently exercises because, even upon enactment of this bill, Congress would retain its authority under Clause 17 of Section 8 of Article I of the U.S. Constitution to amend or overturn any D.C. laws at any time.

The congressional review process (30 days for civil bills and 60 days for criminal bills) includes those days when either house of Congress is in session, delaying D.C. bills from becoming law, often for many months. The delay forces the D.C. Council to pass most bills several times, using a cumbersome and complicated process to ensure that the operations of this large and rapidly changing city continue uninterrupted, avoiding a lapse of a bill before it becomes final. The congressional calendar means that a 30-day period usually lasts a couple of months and often much longer because of congressional recesses. For example, the congressional review period for a bill that changed the word "handicap" to "disability" lasted nine months. The Council estimates that 50 to 65 percent of the bills it passes could be eliminated if the review process did not exist. To ensure that a bill does not lapse, the Council often must pass the same bill in three forms: emergency (in effect for 90 days), temporary (in effect for 225 days) and permanent. Moreover, the Council has to carefully track the days the House and Senate are in session for each D.C. bill it passes to avoid gaps and to determine when the bills have taken effect. The Council estimates that it could save 5,000 employee hours and 160,000 sheets of paper per two-year Council period if the review process were eliminated. House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy addressed the issue of saving such resources by eliminating the amount of paperwork sent to Congress when he proposed a cut in the number of reports that federal agencies are required to submit to Congress. Our bill is a perfect candidate because it eliminates a paperwork process that repeats itself without inter-

My bill would do no more than align the Home Rule Act with congressional practice over the last 24 years. Of the more than 5,000 legislative acts transmitted to Congress since the Home Rule Act was passed in 1973, only three resolutions disapproving D.C. bills have been enacted (in 1979, 1981, and 1991) and two of those mistakenly involved federal interests—one in the Height Act and the other in the location of chanceries. Placing a congressional hold on more than 5,000 D.C. bills has not only proven unnecessary, but has imposed costs on the D.C. government, residents and businesses. District residents and businesses are also placed on hold because they have no certainty when D.C. bills, from taxes to regulations, will take effect, making it difficult to plan. It is particularly unfair to require the D.C. Council to engage in this unnecessary, labor-intensive and costly process. My bill would only eliminate the automatic hold placed on D.C. bills and the need for the D.C. Council to comply with a process initially created for the convenience of Congress, but that is now almost never used. This bill would promote efficiency and cost savings for Congress, the District and D.C. residents and businesses without reducing congressional oversight, and would carry out the policy stressed by Congress of eliminating needless paperwork and make-work redundancy.

I urge my colleagues to support this good-government measure.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably absent on Tuesday, January 22, 2019.

On Roll Vote No. 44, on passage of H.R. 676—NATO Support Act, if I had been present I would have voted YES.

On Roll Call Vote No. 45, on passage of H.R. 328—Hack Your State Department Act, if I had been present, I would have voted YES.

OBSERVING THE 29TH ANNIVERSARY OF BLACK JANUARY

HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Mr. CHABOT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in observance of the 29th anniversary of Black January, January 20, a historic and tragic day in the history of the country of Azerbaijan and to remember the lives lost at the hands of Soviet brutality 29 years ago.

On the night of January 20, 1990, 26,000 Soviet troops invaded the capital city of Baku and surrounding areas. As a result of this violent crackdown on the Azerbaijani people, more than 147 innocent civilians died, around 800 people were injured, and hundreds were arrested. This event has remained embedded in Azerbaijan's national history and in the minds of its citizens as "Black January." This tragic event is seen as the rebirth of the Azerbaijan Republic.

This attack was a desperate attempt to squelch the independence movement that was gaining momentum in Azerbaijan and to rescue the totalitarian regime, the rule of Communist Party, and the whole Soviet Union. This attack, however, produced opposite results, further inflaming the independence movement in Azerbaijan as well as those in other Republics of the former Soviet Union.

Popular pressure led the country to break away from Soviet rule and declare its independence. On August 30, 1991, Azerbaijan's Parliament adopted the Declaration on the Restoration of the State Independence of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and on October 18, 1991, the Constitutional Act on the State Independence of the Republic of Azerbaijan was approved.

November 1991 marked the beginning of international recognition of Azerbaijan's independence. The United States was among the first nations to recognize the young country's independence when we established diplomatic relations on February 28, 1992 and opened an embassy in Baku in March.

Today, the U.S. and Azerbaijan share many interests and objectives for the region as we cooperate on a broad range of issues, especially energy development and security concerns.

I encourage my colleagues to join with me and the Azerbaijani people as they remember this tragedy.

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, January 24, 2019 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JANUARY 29

9:30 a.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold hearings to examine worldwide threats.

SH-216

10 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine China and Russia.

SD-G50

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Nicole R. Nason, of New York, to be Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation.

SD-406

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine access to care, focusing on health centers and providers in underserved communities.

SD-430

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Organizational business meeting to consider committee rules and an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 116th Congress.

SD-342

10:15 a.m.

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine drug pricing in America.

SD-215

12:15 p.m.

Committee on Rules and Administration

Business meeting to consider committee rules and an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee during the 116th Congress.

S-219

1 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine worldwide threats.

SH-219

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Cybersecurity

To hold hearings to examine Department of Defense enterprise-wide cybersecurity policies and architecture.

SR-222

Committee on the Budget

To hold hearings to examine the Congressional Budget Office's budget and economic outlook, focusing on fiscal years 2019–2029.

SD-608