

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.