

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

MARKING THE RETIREMENT OF STEVE HEMINGER

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise with my colleagues to pay tribute to an outstanding regional leader who has had a powerful national impact: Steve Heminger, Executive Director of the San Francisco Bay Area's Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC). Steve is retiring on February 28, 2019, after 17 years in this position and 25 years of leadership at the agency. It is a pleasure to be joined by other members of the Bay Area delegation, including Congresswoman BARBARA LEE, Congressman JARED HUFFMAN, Congresswoman ZOE LOFGREN, Congressman ERIC SWALWELL, Congressman MIKE THOMPSON and Congresswoman ANNA ESHOO, in honoring his many accomplishments.

In the Bay Area and around the country, he is known for the boldness of his vision and the quality of his leadership. At the helm of MTC, he positioned the Commission not only to take on the challenges of the 21st Century Economy, but also to take a strong, active role in the fight against the existential problem of our time: the climate crisis. His leadership has helped shape the Bay Area's economic landscape and transform the way our community lives, works and commutes.

Under Steve's leadership, MTC has played a vital role in growing the Bay Area in a more green and sustainable way, encouraging transit-oriented development, containing sprawl and making public transit, bicycling and walking viable alternatives to solo driving. Through the Committee to House the Bay Area (CASA), Steve has brought together a "who's who" of housing policy and development to address the region's affordable housing crisis.

Under Steve's direction, MTC has helped achieve historic achievements, including: the Fourth Bore of the Caldecott Tunnel; the suicide barrier for the Golden Gate Bridge; the Presidio Parkway approach to the Golden Gate; the BART extensions to East Contra Costa County and Warm Springs, and ultimately to San Jose; the stunning new East Span of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge; and a new commuter rail line tying together Marin and Sonoma counties. We also commend his vision in launching Clipper®, the all-in-one transit fare card that lets riders hop between 22 bus, rail and ferry systems that cross the Bay Area.

Steve is widely recognized nationally as an expert in transportation policy, and for this reason I was honored to appoint him in 2005 to the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission, which helped chart the future course for federal transportation investments. Under Steve's direction, MTC has been a key voice in the crafting of multiple multiyear transportation authorization bills passed by Congress, from TEA-21 to SAFETEA-LU to MAP-21 to FAST.

Congratulations, Steve, on an outstanding career and please accept our deepest appreciation for dedicating twenty-five years to advancing a cleaner, safer, greener and more sustainable home for our children and grandchildren.

HONORING THE LIFE OF HAYDON MICHELLE PAYNE ISHMAEL

HON. MARKWAYNE MULLIN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. MULLIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Haydon Michelle Payne Ishmael, a loving wife and mother who was taken from her family too soon after losing her battle with breast cancer. She was a vivacious and loving spirit with a heart for service, and she gave everything one hundred percent. Whether she was racing cars, scoring goals in a soccer game, volunteering, or cheering on her kids, her energy and enthusiasm shined through.

She leaves behind her husband and childhood sweetheart Todd, her children Madysen, Jewele, and William, her mother Gail (Curtis) Payne and her mother-in-law Penny (Cornel) Ishmael. Her siblings Anne (Payne) and Scott McGarry, Kelly (Payne) and Brad Spears and Will and Brandi Payne, Todd's siblings Tripp and Kelly Ishmael and Thomas and Michelle Ishmael, eleven nieces and nephews, aunt and uncles, cousins and great nieces and nephews. She has gone to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and will be greatly missed.

RECOGNIZING FAITH BLACKABY OF WHITEFISH AND JULIA AND JILLIAN WYNNE OF BIGFORK

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Faith Blackaby of Whitefish and Julia and Jillian Wynne of Bigfork, teenagers who encourage girls to read and whose work has benefited veterans and pet adoption centers in their communities.

Julia, a student at Flathead High School in Kalispell, hosts a weekly book club to inspire third and fourth grade girls to explore their world through reading. She also wrote Shelter Tails, a book featuring pet adoption stories from her community. The proceeds from her book benefited the Flathead County Animal Shelter.

Inspired by her older sister's community service, Jillian, a student at Flathead High School, and Faith, a close friend and student at Whitefish High School, also hosted a book club for girls.

Jillian and Faith designed and published a calendar featuring photographs and stories about local veterans. The proceeds benefited the Northwest Montana Veterans Food Pantry.

For a calendar the next year, they focused on pet adoption, and the proceeds benefited the Humane Society of Northwest Montana.

Mike and Renee Wynne, and Dean and Janet Blackaby have reason to be proud of their children. I thank the Wynnes, the Blackabys, and all in the community who support and encourage Julia, Jillian, and Faith in their service.

Madam Speaker, for their inspiration, leadership, and community service, I recognize Faith Blackaby and Julia and Jillian Wynne for their spirit of Montana.

FARM SHOW CONGRATULATIONS

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. SMUCKER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the accomplishments of residents from my district, who recently competed in the 103rd Annual Pennsylvania Farm Show, which is the nation's largest indoor agricultural exposition.

For one week each January, residents from across the Commonwealth come to view and interact with the best of Pennsylvania's farming community.

Lancaster and York Counties in the district I represent, proudly boast the most fertile soil of anywhere in the world. In our communities, our agricultural traditions and heritage run deep.

We have award winners from all across the district: Steve Topper from Hanover won numerous 1st place awards for his chicken entries; the Espenshades—Evan, Alan and Charlene of Bainbridge won numerous awards for their dairy cattle entries; the Manheim Central FFA Chapter won the "Best of Show Award" for Antique Tractor Restoration; a mother and daughter team, Dorothy Martin and her daughter Debra Berkoski of Conestoga, won awards for baked goods while competing against one another.

Alpine Heritage Creamery in Paradise had award-winning cheese; Kermit Miller of Felton and Charles Hess of Pequea have award winning soybeans; and Madam Speaker, breweries and vineyards from across the district were remarkably successful—St. Boniface, Aldus Brewing, Swashbuckler Brewing, Stoudt Brewing, Mount Hope Winery, Nissley, Levengood's and Wynridge all took awards home this year.

I'd also like to congratulate all the members of the Future Farmers of America from my district who received their Keystone Degrees this year and who entered exhibits.

Their dedication of learning to do, doing to learn, earning to live and living to serve—the FFA motto—will provide them lessons that they will use all of their lives.

• 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.

HONORING NOAH BECKERT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Noah Beckert. Noah is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 314, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Noah has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Noah has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Noah has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Noah Beckert for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES A. HIMES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. HIMES. Madam Speaker, on January 23, 2019, I was unable to be present for the vote on the motion to recommit on H.R. 648, offered by Rep. GRANGER of Texas. Had I been present for roll call No. 48, I would have voted "NAY."

I was also unable to be present for the vote on passage of H.R. 648, offered by Rep. LOWEY of New York. Had I been present for roll call No. 49, I would have voted "AYE."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, I had an unavoidable family commitment and so I missed Roll Call vote number 44 regarding the "NATO Support Act (H.R. 676)." Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I missed Roll Call vote number 45 regarding the "Hack Your State Department Act (H.R. 328)." Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I missed Roll Call vote number 46 regarding the "Making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2019, and for other purposes (H.J. Res. 28)." Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I missed Roll Call vote number 47 regarding the "Rule Provided for Consideration of H.R. 648 Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 and H.J. Res. 31 Making further Continuing Appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for Fiscal Year 2019 (H. Res. 61)." Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I missed Roll Call vote number 48 regarding the "Motion to Recommit on H. R. 648 Con-

solidated Appropriations Act, 2019, I would have voted "no."

I missed Roll Call vote number 49 regarding the "Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 (H.R. 648)." Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING ZARIUS BUHARIVALA

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Zarius Buharivala. Zarius is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Zarius has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Zarius has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Zarius has been an Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, become a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow, and a Fire Builder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Zarius has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Zarius designed and built an educational hydroponic and aquaponic exhibit for Martha Lafite Thompson Nature Sanctuary.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Zarius Buharivala for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING MICHAEL "BIG MIKE" PHILLIPS

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise with great admiration to honor the efforts of a humble hero in San Diego and our LGBTQ community, Michael "Big Mike" Phillips.

Big Mike may have received his namesake due to his tall stature, but there is nothing bigger about him than his enormous heart. Those who have had the pleasure to cross paths with Big Mike know him as a warm, empathetic, and gregarious soul, dedicated to improving the lives of others. He has a unique way of welcoming total strangers and making them feel included, loved, and a part of our community.

Throughout over four decades working in all aspects of the hospitality industry, Big Mike has come to be an expert in the art of serving others. Whether he's serving food and beverages to friends or new friends, hosting a charitable event, or photographing history in the making, his main concern is always the happiness and fulfillment of the people around him.

Big Mike's selflessness may be what helps to make him such a talented photographer.

When he looks through a lens, his focus remains solely on the people and the moment. He has captured local historic LGBTQ events, multiple LGBTQ Marches on Washington, and even photographed four living U.S. Presidents and First Ladies at the opening of the Clinton Library.

In all endeavors, Big Mike gives one hundred percent of his head and his heart. He has contributed to so many charitable organizations that I could not possibly list them all. When Special Delivery San Diego, a nonprofit that provides meals to individuals living with HIV/AIDS, was in need of funding, he inspired 128 other bartenders to enroll in an effort to donate to the program. He has the rare ability to inspire others to be a part of something greater than themselves. Using this skill, Big Mike helped to found Ordinary Miracles and The Rob Benzon Foundation, two non-profits with the mission of welcoming individuals to add their own light to the world that when joined together, illuminates and eases the needs of the abused, sick, and hungry.

When leaders in our community search for a sense of direction and initiative, they often look no further than Big Mike—which can explain why he has been appointed to serve on community advisory boards under almost every single mayor in recent San Diego history.

Though he has lived an accomplished life, Big Mike is quick to give credit to his caring adoptive parents, his loyal friends, and all who have supported him along the way. It is exceptional to find a person who has carried out their career and lived their life almost entirely for the benefit of others, and I can honestly say that Big Mike is one of them.

Even on his birthday, he cannot help but use the opportunity to make the world a better place to live. Every year, Big Mike hosts his Birthday Fundraiser to boost awareness and support for various non-profit organizations and invaluable local resources.

On the 20th Anniversary of his first Birthday Fundraiser, I commend Michael "Big Mike" Phillips for his continuous and substantial efforts to lend love, hope, and a helping hand to all in need. I extend my congratulations and best wishes to him for a successful event and a wonderful year ahead.

Though Mike was born in Germany, and raised in Texas, I am so pleased that he adopted San Diego as his home. San Diego is an even finer place to live because Big Mike was born.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DARLENE HATCHER

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Ms. Darlene Hatcher. Darlene was so many things to so many people: a committed mother, loving daughter, fiancé, sister, grandmother, aunt, and co-worker. She was a very strong family woman and a staple of our community for all of her professional life.

After graduating from Jupiter High School in Florida, she received her Associate of Arts degree from Palm Beach Atlantic Community

College and her Bachelors in Business Administration from the University of Miami. Darlene initially worked as a coordinator for the Radiology department at Good Samaritans Hospital for 15 years, where she was able to display her passion for helping people in need. She then followed her desire to aid her community when she moved to work at Riviera Beach Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) as their Community Redevelopment Director, where she had served for the last ten plus years. Darlene's hard work and dedication will always be remembered by her co-workers.

Darlene's commitment to community work did not stop at the CRA. She loved volunteering and was the president of the Limestone Creek Community group, a non-for-profit advocacy organization with a primary focus on improving, protecting and promoting civic, cultural and recreational community interests.

Madam Speaker, Darlene will be remembered by the many people she touched in her 44 years of life. She held herself to the highest standards, and always encouraged others to be successful contributing members of society, in whatever way that could be. Fond memories of her will forever remain with her parents, Willie and Pearline, her fiancé, David Coley, and her two children, Johnathan and Shatoria, as well as her two grandchildren, Noah and Jeremiah. I offer my deepest condolences to her entire family during this time of great sadness. She was truly a blessing to our community, and I am pleased to honor her memory today. She will be dearly missed.

HONORING PAYTON GREENWALD

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Payton Greenwald. Payton is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Payton has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Payton has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Payton has been a Patrol Leader, has become an Ordeal member of the Order of the Arrow and a Fire Builder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Payton has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Payton designed and completed a gazebo for St. James Catholic Church in Liberty, Missouri, creating a space for "buddy benches" where children can sit and talk in the playground area.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Payton Greenwald for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

COMMEMORATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF LOUISVILLE'S FAIRNESS ORDINANCE

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate 20 years of Fairness in my hometown of Louisville, Kentucky.

It's upsetting to think, but in much of the country, it's legal to kick someone out of their home or fire them for no reason but how they love. For being LGBTQ, for being gay.

But not in Louisville.

Because on January 26, 1999, our community took a bold and historic step for LGBTQ rights, passing the Fairness Ordinance and ensuring that no individual could be robbed of their home or job simply for being who they are.

Louisville was the first in our Commonwealth and among the first in the South to protect LGBTQ people from discrimination, and it was due to a decade of committed work by the Fairness Campaign's passionate staff and volunteers, who refused to accept anything but real, true equality.

In two decades since, Fairness has helped 10 Kentucky cities outlaw LGBTQ discrimination—from our capital Frankfort to the tiny Appalachian coal town of Vicco and beyond.

The rest of Kentucky and our country should follow Louisville's lead and ban LGBTQ discrimination everywhere. I look forward to continuing Louisville's legacy by casting my vote for the Federal Equality Act in this Congress and I urge every Member to join me.

CONGRATULATING THE LOS ANGELES RAMS

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, on Sunday, January 20, the Los Angeles Rams—who play at the Los Angeles Coliseum and will soon be housed in my Congressional District in the City of Inglewood—defeated the New Orleans Saints in the 2019 NFC Championship Game. The Rams won the opportunity to face off with the New England Patriots in Super Bowl LIII on February 3 in Atlanta, Georgia. Football is an all-American sport and is the most popular sport in America. As such, the Rams are congratulated by all of their hometown fans and admirers across the country for their spectacular victory in becoming NFC Champions. I commend these players as well as the players and staff of all NFL teams for their tremendous talent and for exercising their first amendment rights in support of criminal justice reform.

HONORING LANDON JINES

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Landon Jines.

Landon is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Landon has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Landon has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Landon has been a Patrol Leader, and has become a Foxman and Ordeal member of Order of the Arrow. Landon has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Landon lead and participated in the construction of a reflection area consisting of a brick patio with a concrete anchored bench. This reflection area is along the missionary trail at Pleasant Valley Baptist Church in Liberty, Missouri.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Landon Jines for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING MS. NANCY L. KUTULAS FOR HER 36 YEARS OF SERVICE TO OUR NATION

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Nancy L. Kutulas as she retires after 36 years of dedicated service as a Department of the Army Civil Librarian.

There is a reverence that comes with the humble and steadfast service Ms. Kutulas has shown our country over nearly four decades. As one commander at the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School eloquently put it when summing up her career, there is "no better example of the quiet professional and devoted civil servant" than Nancy Kutulas.

While Ms. Kutulas has served in many prestigious posts over the years, she spent the vast majority of it at the epicenter of the universe, Fort Bragg, located in North Carolina's Eighth Congressional District. And throughout her career, Ms. Kutulas has time and again been recognized for her hard work and dedication. In fact, last year she was named the United States Army Special Operations Command Unsung Hero of the Year.

One example of her tenacity and resourcefulness was recently exhibited when she provided a Special Forces Operational Detachment Alpha (ODA) with vital information on a newly-operational weapon system that arrived before the soldiers had been trained how to use it. Ms. Kutulas sprang into action, tracking down the necessary information and dispatching the necessary experts to train the soldiers to successfully deploy the new system—all while under heavy enemy fire. Without her quick actions, who knows how things may have ended for the soldiers.

I wish Ms. Kutulas a long and happy retirement, and I know I speak for countless service members and their families when I say she will be forever missed.

Madam Speaker, please join me in thanking Ms. Kutulas for her 36 years of dedicated service.

IN RECOGNITION OF HENRY ANDERSON AND HIS EFFORTS FOR THE UNITED STATES NATURAL TRACK LUGE TEAM

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, today I rise in honor of the outstanding achievement of Appleton, Wisconsin, resident, Mr. Henry Anderson. I rise to recognize Henry for representing the United States Natural Track Luge Team in upcoming World Cup events. To be selected to represent the United States on a worldwide stage is a significant honor. This is not only an incredible opportunity but also an outstanding accomplishment for a young man merely 14 years old. I wish Henry and his teammate, Torrey Cookman of the Honorable Mr. BERGMAN's District, all the best in their preparation and competition.

Henry and Torrey departed on Christmas Day 2018 for Austria to begin preparation for the World Championship series, which is held at different venues across Europe, including Austria, Italy, and Germany in January and February. They are competing with world-class competition and representing Northeast Wisconsin and the United States with pride and dignity both on and off the track.

As Henry continues his travels in Europe to prepare for the World Cup Championship Series, I wish him the best of luck, the best memories and life experiences that I hope he will reflect on as he grows older. The team's travels will allow its members to showcase some of the great talent that the United States and Northeast Wisconsin has to offer. While this is Henry's first time competing for Team USA, I am certain it will not be his last.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Henry Anderson for his participation in the Natural Luge World Championship as a member of the United States Natural Track Luge Team. Wisconsinites can take great pride in knowing the Eighth District is home to such a talented and dedicated individual. On behalf of my constituents, I wish Henry all the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING JACK KELLEY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jack Kelley. Jack is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 314, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jack has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jack has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jack has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jack Kelley for his accom-

plishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF MAJOR
ROBERT SAUNDERS GOOCH, IV

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Major Robert Saunders Gooch, IV, for his acts of fellowship, goodwill, and service which have greatly improved our country. Robert was born on May 24, 1984, in Richmond, Virginia, and passed away at 34 years old.

Robert was a devoted father who was passionate about spending time making memories with his family, especially swimming, skating, and biking. He was an avid fitness and nutrition enthusiast and enjoyed snowboarding, hiking, and riding motorcycles. With a radiating personality, Robert was described as energetic, a friend to everyone he met and always willing to help others. He was a skilled electronics technician and held numerous certifications while working in his family's business.

Robert enlisted in the U.S. Navy on his 17th birthday and after earning his Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences, Magna Cum Laude, in 2006, he commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Army. Among the numerous accolades earned during his distinguished career, Robert was awarded the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal with two bronze oak leaf clusters, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with two bronze service stars, and his Parachutist Badge. Major Gooch faithfully served including four deployments to Afghanistan.

Robert is survived by his fiancée, Kathryn Dizon, his mother Sherry and her husband lonel Nae, his father Robert Gooch II and his wife Diane Gooch, and his children Mia Gooch, Abby Gooch, and Robert Gooch V as well as his sisters Stacy Pawluk and Stephanie Felts, brothers Brandon and Jacob Gooch along with 8 adoring nieces and nephews.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the life of Major Robert Saunders Gooch, IV, as his life is celebrated by family and friends and for his dedication and outstanding service to our country.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF
LADDIE FRANK JANDA

HON. MICHAEL CLOUD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. CLOUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of Laddie Frank Janda, a Victoria native and World War II Army veteran who dedicated his life to serving his community.

Laddie Frank Janda, born on March 13, 1925, in Shiner, Texas, passed away on December 9, 2018, at the age of 93.

In April 1943, when he was 18 years old, Janda enlisted in the U.S. Army, where he received training as a medic. He was assigned

to the 104th Medical Battalion, 116th Regimental Combat Team, 29th Infantry Division. His unit was selected as one of the lead units of D-Day.

Barely an hour after the first wave of Allied troops landed on Omaha Beach, Janda started tending to the wounded. He continued treating the injured for an additional six weeks until he himself was seriously wounded by shrapnel on July 11th.

The Army recognized his bravery and valor by bestowing on Janda the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and World War II Victory Medal.

After his Army service, Janda enrolled at Baldwin Business College in Yoakum, where he studied bookkeeping. He moved to Victoria in the late 1940s and in 1951 began a 34-year career with Victoria Bank and Trust, retiring as vice-president in 1985.

I would like to extend my heartfelt condolences to the Janda family and express appreciation for his service to our community and sacrifices for our country.

HONORING FREDRICK LANNING

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Fredrick Lanning. Fredrick is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 314, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Fredrick has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Fredrick has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Fredrick has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Fredrick Lanning for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF RESSIE DAVIS ENGLISH

HON. COLIN Z. ALLRED

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. ALLRED. Madam Speaker, today I include in the RECORD the life, the story and the legacy of Ressie Davis English. The grandmother of my colleague, friend and fellow Texan, Congressman MARC VEASEY.

Mrs. English passed on January 18, 2019, after 106 years of life. Throughout her life, she was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, gardener and student of scripture.

On July 29, 1912, in the small town of Rice, Mr. William and Mrs. Mary Hart Davis completed their family of six with a newborn girl they named Ressie Davis. Mr. Davis, like most black citizens of Navarro County at the time, was a farmer. Mr. Davis's father, a well-educated and regarded Baptist minister was resolute in his belief that to do well, his children

needed to be well educated and passed this belief onto his children.

To be black and well educated required that the Davis family find schools beyond the small, rural, operations for black children that existed at the time. Ressie attended high school at Jackson in Corsicana. Jackson was the designated school in town for black students during the era of segregation in Texas. Ressie's family left Rice and moved to where she met the love of her life, Robert March English.

She and Dr. English, 'Bob', married in the spring of 1939, and a few years later had their first child, a daughter named, Mary LlaBetta. By the time a second daughter, Lizzie Elizabeth Janet arrived, the family was living in the bustling town of Mineral Wells, Texas, and Dr. English had become an established young and dynamic Baptist minister working in Jacksboro, Texas.

Dr. English soon became vice-moderator and later moderator of the West Texas District Baptist Association. His ministry flourished, but the need for better medical resources dictated a return to Corsicana. They later added to the family daughters Doris Theresa, "SanDei", and Eva Carolyn and their two sons, Robert James and Joseph Hart-Davis English.

Ressie settled into her role of minister's wife working as a homemaker and running her household with great diligence. She agreed to move to Fort Worth with the caveat that if the church was to be in Lake Como, housing had to be found within walking distance to Como elementary school. Her last three children, Constance Grace, John Moses and Rubye DeiGratia were born in Lake Como. Fully settled in Fort Worth, all nine of the children graduated from or attended Como senior high school.

The English's were well regarded in the Lake Como community, unwavering in their commitment to the church, and steadfast in overseeing the activities of their nine children. The children participated in everything the school had to offer. Ressie made sure her children became fixtures in the recreational and academic setting in the Como community; from piano lessons to track and football, to the PTA, Drama and Debate Club to the National Honors Society, they did it all.

After the establishment of the first church commissioned by the West Texas Baptist Association, Ressie became "First Lady" of another church, independently established by her husband. They named it Mount Moriah Baptist Church. Dr. English guided this church until his death in 1987. Ressie always put God and family first, and in her spare time, she enjoyed gardening and harvesting fruit and vegetables at her Lake Como home. Trips to the now obsolete retailers, Handy Dan and Sutherland's, were her favorite places to buy outdoor and home improvement items. While she did enjoy fresh food; she never turned down a good Breakfast Jack or a two-piece meal from Churches on Lackland and Camp Bowie.

In addition to gardening, Ressie was also very handy at sewing; and always kept a machine, which she was very proud of, nestled near a corner window in her dining room. But most importantly Ressie enjoyed studying the Bible, and for most of her 106 years, she could quote scripture and the words of Jesus Christ with remarkable accuracy and clarity. She oftentimes hummed church hymns while knitting, reading, or working outdoors.

And her memory allowed her to be a master storyteller of days long gone. The summer of 2018 marked 106 years in the life of Ressie Davis English. On January 18, 2019, she went home to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We celebrate her life today with these words forever enshrined into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of the United States House of Representatives, where her grandson Marc Veasey serves. She was preceded in death by her husband Dr. Robert English and three children Mary LlaBetta Sowels, Robert James English and Joseph Hart English, and two granddaughters.

Her legacy continues through her children, Elizabeth English Burky, Doris Theresa English, Eva Carolyn English-Clay, Constance English Cash, John Moses English and Charley Rubye English-Carter. She is also survived by many grandchildren, and great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. Her kids and grandchildren have gone on to work in broadcasting, higher education, politics, the food and beverage industry, and many other endeavors of hard work and accomplishment of which Mrs. English was very proud.

I wish Mrs. English peace and my deepest condolences to Congressman VEASEY and his family.

IN RECOGNITION OF DOUBLE OAK TOWN SECRETARY CHARLOTTE ALLEN

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the exemplary career of Mrs. Charlotte Allen, who will retire from her position as Town Secretary of Double Oak, Texas on February 1, 2019. The town has benefited immensely from her 17 years of devoted service to its citizens and Town Council.

Before beginning her tenure in Double Oak on April 2, 2002, Mrs. Allen served in various public service roles, including Town Secretary for Copper Canyon and City Secretary for Denton. She is well known for her dedication, work ethic, and reliability by colleagues and those she has mentored. Thanks to her hard work, the town of Double Oak has operated efficiently and reliably—a significant benefit to its citizens.

I am grateful for Charlotte Allen's contributions to the town of Double Oak, and I wish her all the best in the chapters ahead.

HONORING CHRIS LARSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Chris Larson. Chris is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Chris has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the

many years Chris has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Chris contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project at the Earnest Shepherd Memorial Youth Center outside Liberty, Missouri.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Chris Larson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING AN OP-ED WRITTEN BY MR. BILL PASCRELL

HON. JAMIE RASKIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share an excellent op-ed written by my colleague Mr. BILL PASCRELL, entitled, "Why is Congress so dumb?" In this lucid essay, Rep. PASCRELL discusses the systematic demolition of Congress' power to assemble accurate information, conduct investigations and develop sound policy. It is an imperative of the 116th Congress that we rebuild Congressional capacity to govern with the information we need. In his piece, which appeared in the Washington Post, Mr. PASCRELL writes:

In a year of congressional low lights, the hearings we held with Silicon Valley leaders last fall may have been the lowest. One of my colleagues in the House asked Google CEO Sundar Pichai about the workings of an iPhone—a rival Apple product. Another colleague asked Facebook head Mark Zuckerberg, "If you're not listening to us on the phone, who is?" One senator was flabbergasted to learn that Facebook makes money from advertising. Over hours of testimony, my fellow members of Congress struggled to grapple with technologies used daily by most Americans and with the functions of the Internet itself. Given an opportunity to expose the most powerful businesses on Earth to sunlight and scrutiny, the hearings did little to answer tough questions about the tech titans' monopolies or the impact of their platforms. It's not because lawmakers are too stupid to understand Facebook. It's because our available resources and our policy staffs, the brains of Congress, have been so depleted that we can't do our jobs properly.

Americans who bemoan a broken Congress rightly focus on ethical questions and electoral partisanship. But the tech hearings demonstrated that our greatest deficiency may be knowledge, not cooperation. Our founts of independent information have been cut off, our investigatory muscles atrophied, our committees stripped of their ability to develop policy, our small staffs overwhelmed by the army of lobbyists who roam Washington. Congress is increasingly unable to comprehend a world growing more socially, economically and technologically multifaceted—and we did this to ourselves. When the 110th Congress opened in 2007, Democrats rode into office on a tide of outrage at the George W. Bush administration and the Republican Congress, which had looked the other way during the Tom DeLay, Jack Abramoff and Duke Cunningham scandals. My colleagues and I focused our energies on exposing corruption. But we missed crucial

opportunities to reform the institution of Congress. As my party assumes a new majority in the House, we confront similar circumstances and have a second chance to begin the hard work of nursing our chamber back to strength.

Our decay as an institution began in 1995, when conservatives, led by then-Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.), carried out a full-scale war on government. Gingrich began by slashing the congressional workforce by one-third. He aimed particular ire at Congress's brain, firing 1 of every 3 staffers at the Government Accountability Office, the Congressional Research Service and the Congressional Budget Office. He defunded the Office of Technology Assessment, a tech-focused think tank. Social scientists have called those moves Congress's self-lobotomy, and the cuts remain largely unreversed.

Gingrich's actions didn't stop with Congress's mind: He went for its arms and legs, too, as he dismantled the committee system, taking power from chairmen and shifting it to leadership. His successors as speaker have entrenched this practice. While there was a 35 percent decline in committee staffing from 1994 to 2014, funding over that period for leadership staff rose 89 percent.

This imbalance has defanged many of our committees, as bills originating in leadership offices and K Street suites are forced through without analysis or alteration. Very often, lawmakers never even see important legislation until right before we vote on it. During the debate over the Republicans' 2017 tax package, hours before the floor vote, then-Sen. Claire McCaskill (D-Mo.) tweeted a lobbying firm's summary of GOP amendments to the bill before she and her colleagues had had a chance to read the legislation. A similar process played out during the Republicans' other signature effort of the last Congress, the failed repeal of the Affordable Care Act. Their bill would have remade one-sixth of the U.S. economy, but it was not subject to hearings and was introduced just a few hours before being voted on in the dead of night. This is what happens when legislation is no longer grown organically through hearings and debate.

Congress does not have the resources to counter the growth of corporate lobbying. Between 1980 and 2006, the number of organizations in Washington with lobbying arms more than doubled, and lobbying expenditures between 1983 and 2013 ballooned from \$200 million to \$3.2 billion. A stunning 2015 study found that corporations now devote more resources to lobby Congress than Congress spends to fund itself. During the 2017 fight over the tax legislation, the watchdog group Public Citizen found that there were more than 6,200 registered tax lobbyists, vs. 130 aides on the Senate Finance Committee and the Joint Committee on Taxation, a staggering ratio approaching 50-to-1 disfavoring the American people. In 2016 in the House, there were just 1,300 aides on all committees combined, a number that includes clerical and communications workers. Our expert policy staffs are dwarfed by the lobbying class.

The practical impact of this disparity is impossible to overstate as lobbyists flood our offices with information on issues and legislation—information on which many lawmakers have become reliant. Just a few weeks ago, at the end of the session, I witnessed the biennial tradition of departing members of Congress relinquishing their suites to the incoming class. As lawmakers emptied their desks and cabinets, the office hallways were clogged with dumpsters overflowing with reports, white papers, massaged data and other materials, a perfect illustration of the proliferating junk dropped off by lobbyists.

Congress remade its committees in the 1970s to challenge Richard Nixon's presidency and move power to rank-and-file lawmakers. Many segregationist chairmen were ousted and replaced by reformers, and committees and subcommittees were given flexibility to study issues under their purview. It's no accident that some of the most significant legislation and oversight by Congress—Title IX; the Clean Water Act; the Watergate, Pike and Church hearings—came from this period. Congress had strengthened its pillars, hired smart people and accessed the best information available.

Following the reforms of the 1970s, the House held some 6,000 hearings per year. But eventually, the number of House hearings fell—from a tick above 4,000 in 1994 to barely more than 2,000 in 2014. On the tax-writing Ways and Means Committee, of which I am a member, oversight hearings are virtually nonexistent, as is developing legislation. We had no hearings in 2017 on the bill that would dramatically rewrite our tax code. And in the last Congress, we didn't haul in any administration officials for a single public hearing on the renegotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement. Assessing this state of affairs in a 2017 report, the Congressional Management Foundation noted that committees "have been meeting less often than at almost any other time in recent history." This neglect has become the norm. Instead, leadership, lobbyists and the White House decide how to solve policy problems.

Indeed, Congress has allowed the White House to dominate policymaking. Trade is a perfect illustration. Despite our current president's braggadocio, most Americans would be surprised to learn ultimate trade power rests with Congress. But over and over we've willingly, even eagerly, handed off that responsibility given to us by Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution. President Trump's power to renegotiate NAFTA was granted by Congress, as was his power to issue tariffs, allowed under the Trade Expansion Act of 1962. I disagreed with the decision in 2015 to give President Barack Obama—a member of my own party—fast track power to advance the Trans-Pacific Partnership. During that debate, I sat stupefied as some members of our committee sought to award not only Obama but also future, unknown executives an extended and open-ended authority to make other deals. Congress was prepared to simply abdicate our job.

Perhaps the most striking instance of political interference I've seen in my career occurred in the Ways and Means Committee in 2014. Then-Chairman Dave Camp (R-Mich.) had toiled for months with Democrats, Republicans and budget experts to craft a comprehensive tax reform bill. I may not have loved the final product, but I respected the process. Republican leadership killed the proposal almost immediately after it was unveiled. The reason? They wanted to deny Obama a legislative accomplishment.

For decades, nearly every piece of legislation would reach the floor via committee, but beginning in the 1990s, the rate began to drop. In the 113th Congress, approximately 40 percent of big-ticket legislation bypassed committees. Before 1994, Camp would have informed the speaker of his proposal and brought it to the floor. Now, a chairman has much less power to realize meaningful legislation. Meanwhile, longstanding House rules have essentially blocked the amendment process on the floor, meaning bills can't be modified by members of the wider chamber.

In addition to committee weakness, House lawmakers collectively employ fewer staffers today than they did in 1980. Between 1980 and 2016, when the U.S. population rose by nearly 97 million people and districts grew by 40

percent on average (about 200,000 people per seat), the number of aides in House member offices decreased, to 6,880, and total House staff increased less than 1 percent, to 9,420.

The first lobe of Congress's brain we can bulk back up is the Congressional Research Service. The CRS provides studies from talented experts spanning law, defense, trade, science, industry and other realms. Some of our greatest oversight triumphs—Watergate, Iran-contra, the Freedom of information Act—were achieved with the CRS's support. Great nations build libraries, and much of the CRS is housed in the Library of Congress's Madison Building.

But the CRS has become a political target. In 2012, a CRS report finding that tax cuts do not generate revenue enraged my Republican colleagues, who had the report pulled and began browbeating CRS experts. According to figures supplied by the CRS, the next year, the service saw its funding cut by \$5 million, nearly 5 percent, recovering to previous levels only in 2015. (The CRS did get big funding bumps in recent years.)

The Congressional Budget Office and the Government Accountability Office, crown jewels of our body that provide nonpartisan budget projections, are similarly ignored or maligned for partisan purposes. Last year, when the CBO debunked claims that the GOP tax plan would create jobs, Republicans savaged the agency instead of improving the law. It reminded me of my colleagues, Rep. Jim Himes (D-Conn.), of an episode of *The Simpsons* in which Springfield residents, rescued from a hurtling comet, resolve to raze the town observatory.

The GAO also furnishes rich information to Congress on virtually any subject. Last year I requested and obtained a study on the live-events ticket market. It was a probing report with fresh data. Former senator Tom Coburn (R-Okla.), one of the most conservative lawmakers of the past generation, praised the GAO, estimating that every dollar of funding for the agency potentially saved Americans \$90. Nonetheless, from 1980 to 2015, GAO staffing was cut by one-fifth. While I never had the pleasure of collaborating with the Office of Technology Assessment, its reputation is legendary. Like the GAO, it operated as a think tank for Congress, tasked with studying science and technology issues. The OTA was Congress's only agency solely conducting scholarly work on these issues until Gingrich disemboweled it. Today, few members of Congress know it ever existed. The congressional hearings on big tech showcased my colleagues' inability to wrap their heads around basic technologies. But our challenges don't stop at Silicon Valley. Biomedical research, CRISPR, space exploration, artificial intelligence, election security, self-driving cars and, most pressingly, climate change are also on Congress's plate.

And we are functioning like an abacus seeking to decipher string theory. By one estimate, the federal government spends \$94 billion on information technology, while Congress spends \$0 on independent assessments of technology issues. We are crying out for help to guide our thinking on these emerging areas. I have backed motions to bring the OTA back to life, and I was heartened last year when the House Appropriations Committee approved funding for a study on the feasibility of a new OTA.

The creation in the House rules of a Select Committee for the Modernization of Congress in this new session is a terrific beginning—and a signal that Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) and Rules Committee Chairman Jim McGovern (D-Mass.) understand the importance of these issues. Providing capital and staff to the institution should be a major priority in the 116th Congress. The

budgets we approve fund 445 executive departments, agencies, commissions and other federal bodies. But for every \$3,000 the United States spends per American on government programs, we allocate only \$6 to oversee them.

After decades of disinvesting in itself, Congress has become captured by outside interests and partisans. Lawmakers should be guided by independent scholars, researchers and policy specialists. We must recognize our difficulties in comprehending an impossibly complex world. Undoing the mindless destruction of 1994 will take a lot of effort, but with investment, we can make Congress work again.

IN RECOGNITION OF 100 YEARS OF
THE THIEL FAMILY REAL ES-
TATE AND AUCTION BUSINESS

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the 100-year anniversary of Thiel family auctioneers. Started in 1919, the Thiel Real Estate and Auction business still operates today in Northeast Wisconsin.

100 years ago, Andrew Thiel started his family auction business out of his home in Chilton, Wisconsin. Continuing his father's legacy, Andrew's son Randolph took over the company until he retired at the age of 81. Following his retirement, Andrew's son Jerry took over and continued to expand the business from auctions to also include the real estate and appraisal businesses. Jerry joined the Wisconsin Realtors Association and the Calumet County Board of Realtors, where he served as a board member and president for many years. In 1988, Jerry Thiel was named Calumet County Realtor of the Year, and is currently a member of the Wisconsin Realtor Honor Society.

The Thiel Real Estate and Auctions business is the oldest family-owned business and the largest appraisal business in Calumet County. And, the family tradition continues today. Fourth and fifth generation Thiel family members, including Jerry's four children and many grandchildren, are actively involved in the business.

This 100-year accomplishment is significant and inspirational. The Thiel family exemplifies the best qualities of Northeast Wisconsin and I am proud to represent such a dedicated, innovative, and hardworking family.

Madam Speaker, I ask that the Members of the House of Representatives join me in congratulating the Thiel family for their 100 years of success in Northeast Wisconsin.

HONORING ALEX TRISCHLER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Alex Trischler. Alex is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy

Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Alex has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Alex has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Alex has led his troop as a Patrol Leader, become a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow, and holds the rank of Brave in the tribe of Mic-O-Say. Alex has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Alex created an extension and beautification of a memorial garden for Second Baptist Church in Liberty, Missouri. Alex and his fellow Scouts and Scouters donated 201 service hours for this beautiful project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Alex Trischler for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING JUDGE JOHN PAYTON
FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. John Edward Payton for his twenty-eight years of dedicated service to Collin County, Texas.

A graduate of Plano East Senior High School in Collin County, Texas, John Payton was first elected to the position of Collin County Justice of the Peace for Precinct 3 in 1990. Payton had the distinction of serving as the youngest ever elected Judge in Texas, an accolade recognized in the Guinness Book of World Records. John would go on to earn Magna Cum Laude honors at Collin College, where he would also achieve recognition for his role on the USA TODAY Academic All-American team and as a member of Phi Beta Kappa International Honor Society.

His many contributions to our community include his mentorship of at-risk students who benefitted from his steadfast leadership and compassion. More than twenty years ago, Payton realized the need to assist youth by providing community service opportunities through the creation of the Students on Service Community Service Program. Countless lives have been changed by the opportunities presented for these youths to contribute to their community in meaningful ways resulting in an impressive 500,000 plus hours of service to the community. Judge Payton would often spend his weekends with students building homes through Habitat for Humanity or teaching local youth how to operate a farm or greenhouse. John truly built communities in the deepest sense.

Judge Payton's contributions to the community are numerous, earning him an array of awards and recognitions from respected colleagues and organizations throughout Collin County. On a personal level, John might tout his greatest accomplishment as serving as a loving husband to Shea and a proud father to Katarina.

Judge John Payton's servant leadership and efforts to provide a constant and strong com-

munity support structure for our youth are to be commended. He is particularly to be praised for his unwavering belief that through committed involvement with our youth, we can build the future.

It has been an honor to know and work with Mr. John Edward Payton over the years. As Judge Payton begins this next chapter of his life, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating him for his selfless service to the youth and residents of Collin County. Semper Fidelis.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF THE COMMIS-
SIONERS OF THE REVENUE AS-
SOCIATION OF VIRGINIA

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100th Anniversary of the Commissioners of the Revenue Association of Virginia, a well-reputed organization that has spent the past century providing counseling on tax policy and its application.

The Commissioners of Revenue began providing counsel to the Virginia General Assembly, the Commonwealth, her agencies and departments, and local governments on January 1, 1919. Since their formation, they have played an integral role in the history of Virginia, being involved in both the registration of our Commonwealth's first female voters and their support for the elimination of segregation within real and personal property tax assessment books.

The Virginia Commissioners of Revenue is made up of 127 individuals who are the chief assessing officers of their localities. They do irreplaceable work assessing property values, issuing business licenses, state income tax filing assistance, as well as further work within their respective areas. They serve as invaluable resources for the citizens of Virginia's First District, and I cannot thank them enough for the hard work they do every day.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the 100th Anniversary of the Commissioners of the Revenue Association of Virginia. I proudly thank the men and women who serve as Virginia's Commissioners for their dedication to our Commonwealth and their work. May God bless the operations of the Commissioners of the Revenue Association of Virginia, and I look forward to seeing their continued excellence.

HONORING MARCUS DAWAYNE
WILSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Marcus Dawayne Wilson. Marcus is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 283 and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Marcus has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Marcus has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Marcus has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Marcus Dawayne Wilson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES R. BAIRD

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. BAIRD. Madam Speaker, due to technical difficulties, I was unable to cast my vote on January 22, 2019. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 44.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHRIS COLLINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. COLLINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I was unable to make votes due to arriving late to D.C. on January 22, 2019. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 44; and YEA on Roll Call No. 45.

HONORING THE UNIVERSITY OF
BRIDGEPORT WOMEN'S SOCCER
TEAM 2018 NCAA DIVISION II
CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE

HON. JAMES A. HIMES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. HIMES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of the University of Bridgeport women's soccer team following their 2018 NCAA Division II Championship win.

After a successful season, including winning the East Coast Conference Championship tournament, the team made history with their first NCAA Division II National Championship appearance. The team was seeded third in the tournament and defeated the number one ranked team, the previously undefeated Grand Valley State University. The 1–0 win came after a previous 6–0 loss to Grand Valley State in September, showing the true growth and determination that the team embodied.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me in recognizing everyone who made this championship win a reality; the coaches, Magnus Nilerud, Jack Abelson, Jonathan Macadam, and Andre Lindsay who devoted countless hours developing these athletes into the winning team they became; and the players—Jennifer Wendelius, Mikayla Duhaime, Rebecca Niblett, Annie Bjork, Shyla Murray,

Amanda Ebbesson, Sara Berglund, Rebekka Skaasheim, Nara DaCosta, Maegen Doyle, Carolina Rico, Alyssa Samson, Andrea Jozefczyk, Baylee Houston, Anisha Hill, Cailin Alcock, Eleonore Freby, Lara Heather, Karin Oberg, Eva Maria Becerra, Abigail Befford, Elin Eklund, Anne-Marie Fjeld, Andrea Basilicato, Valentina Florez, Sloane Hugges, Manu Costa, Marieke Kramer, Karoline Vieira, and Annelise Jennings—who represent the University of Bridgeport with pride.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE
TODD RICHARDSON

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Honorable Todd Richardson on being named the Poplar Bluff Chamber of Commerce's Citizen of the Year. I had the honor of serving alongside Todd in the Missouri State House and have grown to admire and respect him dearly.

Todd became Speaker of the Missouri House in 2015, leading the chamber and state during a tumultuous time. He passed sweeping tax reform legislation, making Missouri more competitive economically. He also passed historic legislation protecting the unborn and Missourians' 2nd Amendment rights, while overseeing a rewrite of harassment policies in Missouri's Capitol. All of these accomplishments were done while carrying himself with dignity and integrity, garnering the utmost respect from members on both sides of the aisle. Todd was the right person in the right position at the right time to lead our state through some significant times of uncertainty.

Todd was recently selected by Governor Parsons to be the Director of MO HealthNet. He is already making an imprint by leading an effort to root out fraud and prevent waste while providing accessible, quality healthcare to all Missourians.

Todd is a man of great character, who sought for his tenure in the Missouri State House to be consistent with his moral and personal values, or as he put it "to be the same person when I leave as I was when I arrived." And Madam Speaker, he has done just that. On behalf of the Eighth Congressional District of Missouri, it is my great privilege to recognize a true gentleman from Butler County, Todd Richardson.

HONORING THOMAS LOYD AND
JANE PANSING BROWN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Thomas Loyd and Jane Pansing Brown on earning the Northlanders of the Year Award from the Northland Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Tom and Jane have been exemplary and historic community members for the Kansas City Northland and their achievements cannot be overstated. Tom has not only served as a

Clay County Commissioner and Chairman of the Missouri Lottery Commission, but also for 30 years at Saint Luke's North Hospital, most recently as Chairman of the Board. Tom has also served on boards for the Mid-America Regional Council, Tri-County Mental Health, and Synergy Services, among others, while also advocating for the Northland within Congress as a member of my staff for the past 13 years.

Jane has also left her mark on the Northland community. As a young attorney, Jane was barred from the courtroom due to her pregnancy. By the time Jane was pregnant with their third child, Jane was serving as the first female judge in Clay County history. She served on the North Kansas City School Board, an organization she remains involved with, but most notably has served as an assistant United States Attorney since 2002. Her work for the Department of Justice includes a year as the Assistant Program Director at the National Advocacy Center, responsible for planning the continuing legal education classes for all 13,000 federal prosecutors and Department of Justice staff.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me, their three children, four grandchildren, and many friends and colleagues in commending Thomas Loyd and Jane Pansing Brown for their accomplishments and for their efforts put forth in bettering the Northland.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I was unable to have my votes recorded on the House floor from Tuesday, January 22 through the first vote series on Wednesday, January 23, 2019 due to flight cancellations from heavy snow in Wisconsin. Had I been present, I would have supported the passage of all bills and resolutions considered on the floor. In particular, I strongly supported the passage of H.R. 676, the NATO Support Act. NATO has been a critical organization in protecting the rules-based international world order that was created by the U.S. and its allies after WWII, and it deserves the full support of the U.S.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF
PABLO NARVAIZ, JR.

HON. MICHAEL CLOUD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. CLOUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of Pablo Narvaiz, Jr., a Victoria native and Vietnam War Marine Corps veteran who was active in serving his community.

Pablo Narvaiz, Jr., born on October 27, 1948, in Beeville, Texas passed away on January 17, 2019, at the age of 70.

Narvaiz, Jr., was an active member of the Catholic War Veterans Post 1269 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4146. With a true servant's heart, he spread joy and happiness to many children throughout the years as Santa Claus at the Catholic War Veterans Annual Christmas Event.

In his free time, Narvaiz Jr. loved playing bingo with his wife and family. He spent many days enjoying coffee with his friends and co-workers.

Pablo Narvaiz Jr. is survived by his wife, Mary Narvaiz; stepmother, Ofelia Narvaiz; daughter, Lorraine Narvaiz; son, Paul (Dora) Narvaiz, III; sisters, Janie Atkinson, Dora, Linda, Patty, and Frances; brothers, Pilar (Linda) Narvaiz, Michael, and Javier; four grandchildren; several nieces and nephew.

I would like to extend my heartfelt condolences to the Narvaiz family and express appreciation for his service to our community and sacrifices for our country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Ms. SÁNCHEZ. Madam Speaker, yesterday January 23, 2019 on Roll Call Numbers 46 through 51, H.J. Res 28, Making further continuing appropriations for FY 2019 and other purposes, H. Res 61, Providing for consideration of H.R. 648, H.R. 648, the Motion to Recommit the Consolidated Appropriations Act, H.R. 648, on passage of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, H.J. Res 31, the Motion to Recommit Making further continuing appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security, and H.J. Res 31, on Passage, I was unavoidably detained and missed the vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted:

Roll Call 46. H.J. Res 28: YES;

Roll Call 47. H. Res 61: YES;

Roll Call 48. H.R. 648: NO;

Roll Call 49. H.R. 648: YES;

Roll Call 50. H.J. Res. 31: NO; and

Roll Call 51. H.J. Res 31: YES.

IN RECOGNITION OF HALTOM CITY FIRE CHIEF PERRY BYNUM

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the achievements of Chief Perry Bynum of the Haltom City, Texas Fire Department. Chief Bynum recently retired after serving the citizens of Haltom City for nearly 30 years.

Throughout his career, Chief Bynum held many positions within the fire department, rising through its ranks to become Chief. He was a charter member of the department's Honor Guard and the Haltom City Firefighters Association Local 3562, and he also is a member of the Texas Fire Chiefs Association, the Tarrant County Fire Chiefs Association, and the North East Fire Department Association.

During his tenure, Chief Bynum served as Haltom City's Emergency Management Coordinator and was instrumental in establishing and strengthening the city's Emergency Management Program. In 2007, he was recognized by his peers to receive the prestigious "Excellence in Emergency Management Award" from the Emergency Management Association of Texas. In addition, he has served

as both a member and chairman of the North Texas Council of Government's Regional Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee and on the First Responder's Advisory Board.

Throughout his career, Chief Bynum dedicated nearly three decades of his life to public service. His expertise and leadership will be sorely missed not only by the citizens of Haltom City, but also by his colleagues across Texas and beyond. He has truly been an outstanding public servant, and on behalf of the 26th District, I wish him all the best in retirement.

RECOGNIZING ST. ROSE, IL ON ITS 150TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the community of St. Rose, Illinois on the occasion of its 150th anniversary.

The residents of St. Rose have displayed a great deal of dedication, energy, and time in preparation for her sesquicentennial celebration and have planned a diverse schedule of events guaranteed to entertain all who attend. The village and township of St. Rose have been an integral part of the state of Illinois for 150 years, and the citizens of St. Rose have played an important role in Illinois history, life, and government.

In recognition of this background and St. Rose's celebration, the State of Illinois decreed that the weekend of October 7th be designated as St. Rose Sesquicentennial Weekend.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in acknowledging the hard work and dedication of the people of St. Rose, and I wish the community all the best in the future.

IMPORTANT POINTS ABOUT THE DOMINICAN FILM QUÉ LEÓN

HON. ADRIANO ESPAILLAT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, Qué León is a Dominican film directed by Frank Perozo, produced by Caribbean Cinemas and its executive producers Gregory Quinn, Michael Carrady and Zumaya Cordero, which shows, with humor, how love can survive all adversities.

Qué León, for its quality, represents a contribution to the Dominican filmography.

Qué León surpassed all expectations by mobilizing more than 600,000 people in its first eight weeks in markets such as the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, and more than eight Caribbean islands and Bolivia.

In addition, it is the first Dominican film with a massive premiere in North American territory in more than 13 states, around 35 cities and more than 70 cinemas, which sets a precedent for Dominican industry in U.S. territory.

What León is about the life of Nicole and José Miguel, who have one thing in common: their last name León. But they come from very different social backgrounds, and their love will

have to deal with the opposition of their parents and with a large number of situations that will put them to the test.

Qué León has a cast of prominent Dominican and Puerto Rican actors and actresses, including singer Ozuna, Clarissa Molina (winner of the reality show Nuestra Belleza Latina in 2016, who also makes her film debut), and experienced kings of the Dominican comedy Raymond Pozo and Miguel Céspedes.

Qué León also includes in its cast important figures of theater, film and television, such as Celinés Toribio, Stephany Liriano, Milagros German, Irving Alberti, Anyelina Sánchez, Roger Wasserman, Oscar Carrasquillo, Candy Flow, the salsars Víctor Manuelle and Alex Matos and the Puerto Ricans Jorge Pabón "Molusco" and Jaime Mayol.

(The statement in Spanish is as follows:)

Madam Speaker, Qué León es una película dominicana dirigida por Frank Perozo, producida por Caribbean Cinemas y sus productores ejecutivos Gregory Quinn, Michael Carrady y Zumaya Cordero, que muestra, con humor, cómo el amor puede sobrevivir a todas las adversidades.

Qué León, por su calidad, representa un aporte a la filmografía dominicana.

Qué León superó todas las expectativas movilizándolo a más de 600,000 personas en sus primeras ocho semanas en mercados como República Dominicana, Puerto Rico, y más de ocho islas del Caribe y Bolivia. Además, es la primera película dominicana con un estreno masivo en territorio norteamericano en más de 13 estados, alrededor de 35 ciudades y más de 70 salas, lo que establece un precedente para la industria dominicana en territorio estadounidense.

Qué León trata de la vida de Nicole y José Miguel, quienes tienen una cosa en común: su apellido León. Pero provienen de entornos sociales muy diferentes, y su amor tendrá que lidiar con la oposición de sus padres y con un gran número de situaciones que los pondrán a prueba.

Qué León cuenta con un elenco de destacados actores y actrices dominicanos y puertorriqueños, entre los que figuran el cantante Ozuna, Clarissa Molina (ganadora del reality show Nuestra Belleza Latina en el 2016, quien también hace su debut en el cine), y los experimentados reyes de la comedia dominicana Raymond Pozo y Miguel Céspedes.

Qué León también incluye en su elenco a importantes figuras del teatro, cine y televisión, como Celinés Toribio, Stephany Liriano, Milagros German, Irving Alberti, Anyelina Sánchez, Roger Wasserman, Oscar Carrasquillo, Candy Flow, los salseros Víctor Manuelle y Alex Matos y los puertorriqueños Jorge Pabón "Molusco" y Jaime Mayol.

HONORING MANUEL U. GARCIA

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I would like to take some time to honor Manuel U. Garcia, a proud U.S. Citizen and Zacatecano that devoted his life to theater, philanthropy, and his family. Regrettably Mr. Garcia passed away on October 28, 2018 in Santa Ana, California at the age of 76 years old.

Mr. Garcia was born in El Cargadero, Zacatecas, Mexico to Francisco and Antonia Garcia. He was the fourth child of a family of 10 children. At the age of 21, he immigrated

to the United States in 1962 as a member of the Bracero Program and worked as a farm worker in Arizona and California. He eventually made his way to Los Angeles where he attended community college to learn English. In 1964 he moved to Santa Ana where he bought two homes. He became an imperative resource to his family and friends arriving from Mexico, providing them with temporary shelter, food and helping them find jobs.

As a member of the Santa Ana Actors Club of the Yost Theater, he helped bring Spanish-speaking theater to the growing Latino community in Santa Ana by acting and writing screen plays and poems. He began working as a laborer in 1966 and was a proud card-carrying member of the Laborers' International Union of North America, Local 652, for more than 50 years. During his 23 years as a laborer, he worked on many construction projects throughout Southern California, including numerous expansions to the Interstate 5 freeway and building the Indiana Jones Adventure ride at Disneyland Park in Anaheim.

Mr. Garcia was married in 1971, to Reyna Silvia, and together they had eight children: Leticia, Patricia, Alma, Elvira, Rosalva, Carlos, David, and Teresa. He was also the father to Johnny and the grandfather to 13 grandchildren.

After nearly 30 years in the United States, he was inspired to become a citizen as a result of the anti-immigrant sentiment in California in the 1990s. He was proud to become a U.S. citizen on March 9, 1999, and quickly registered to vote as a Democrat. He made sure he voted in every election, and took pride to learn about all candidates, local measures, and statewide propositions to make sure he made informed decisions.

Manuel was also very proud of his Mexican nationality, and frequently visited El Cargadero—a small town in the state of Zacatecas. He was instrumental in helping build a health clinic, a library with computers, a funeral home, and update the elementary school. For nearly four decades, he partnered with many Mexican government officials to further help improve his hometown. He spearheaded projects to build a bridge, expand the central plaza, build a new townhall, public restrooms, a new baseball stadium, and improve local infrastructure.

Manuel was also an avid baseball fan. He was a loyal fan of the Los Angeles Dodgers and the Los Angeles Angels. He played recreational baseball for many years with his brothers, and as a parent coached many teams for the Santa Ana Little League. In his retirement years, he worked part-time as a janitor at the Los Angeles Angels stadium while enjoying a good game—the best of two worlds.

Mr. Garcia was a generous man who continuously found ways to give back to his community. His generosity reached hundreds of people and will be missed by friends and family. Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize Manuel U. Garcia.

HONORING CHARLIE “CHIEF” INGS

HON. VAL BUTLER DEMINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mrs. DEMINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Charlie “Chief” Ings, a legend in the Orlando Police Department.

Charlie “Chief” Ings spent nearly thirty years with the Orlando Police Department. He was a trailblazer in every sense of the word, serving as one of OPD’s first black police officers and serving as the first black detective.

Charlie Ings’ commitment was real, his dedication fierce, and his perseverance unwavering. Before joining the police department, he spent seven years with Orlando’s Recreation Division. While walking a different type of beat, he mentored children and teenagers and stood as a strong role model and source of strength and inspiration for his community.

By the time he joined the Orlando Police Department, he was called a “walking encyclopedia” of West Orlando’s families by his peers. What came naturally to Charlie Ings is today known as “community-oriented policing.” Simply put, he always put service above self. The community trusted him, and that meant getting calls and tips in crucial details on unsolved cases.

He worked long nights and cold mornings, broke up crime rings and built lifelong friendships. He was married to his wife Pearl for thirty years and was father to six children. One of his children, Commissioner Samuel Ings, followed in his footsteps by joining the Orlando Police Department.

What Charlie “Chief” Ings’ former colleagues remember about him is his character. His integrity was renowned, and he treated everyone with dignity and respect. He was an officer and a gentleman and leaves an exemplary roadmap for others to follow. He will be remembered by his family, his friends, former colleagues, and a grateful community.

IN HONOR OF LOREN FELDNER,
D.D.S.

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a dear friend and loving father, whose unquestioned patriotism and lifelong service to others will be sorely missed.

The world lost a great man when my friend, Dr. Loren J. Feldner, D.D.S. went to be with the Lord on January 17, 2019. Dr. Feldner was more than just a leader in his profession; he was a force for good in the world. His colleagues will remember a true advocate of the dental field, someone who served faithfully through his state dental society and the American Dental Association. After hours, he volunteered his professional expertise, working with underprivileged communities and veterans. This passion for others was evident through his care and treatment for patients, which was second to none.

Outside of the office, Dr. Feldner was a devoted family man who chased the fullest life the world could offer. Loren spent his free time

piloting his boat, driving race cars, and traveling the world with his daughter Alexandra and his love, Terry Park. His laugh was contagious to all who encountered him, and he genuinely cared about every single person who crossed his path. Loren served people with the same passion with which he served God. His generosity had no bounds, and I will certainly miss our friendship.

I will continue to pray for the Feldner family through this difficult time. Loren’s legacy on Earth will be long-lasting, and it brings me peace knowing my friend is finally home.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to remember Dr. Loren Feldner. May God bless his family and all those he leaves behind.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Ms. SÁNCHEZ. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, January 22, 2019 on Roll Call Numbers 44 and 45, the NATO Support Act, H.R. 676, and the Hack Your State Department Act, H.R. 328, I was unavoidably detained and missed the vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted: H.R. 676: YES; and H.R. 328: YES.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Madam Speaker, I missed votes on Tuesday, January 22. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Roll Call Vote Number 44 (Passage of H.R. 676, the NATO Support Act): YES; and Roll Call Vote Number 45 (Passage of H.R. 328, the Hack Your State Department Act): YES.

HOW THE TRUMP SHUTDOWN
HURTS HOUSTON RESERVIST

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, Edith Banda a constituent who lives in Houston recently returned from a reservist deployment in the Middle East. She is among thousands of people in the Houston area feeling the impact of the government shutdown.

Edith has not worked her federal job in downtown Houston since the shutdown 25 days ago.

Making matters worse, she and dozens of others in Houston are unable to seek temporary private sector work because such jobs require permission, and the people who process those requests have been furloughed.

Edith has begun selling her personal possessions to make ends meet, but she said another couple of weeks of no work would be crushing.