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is an important step forward in preventing on-
line marketplaces used for sex trafficking or il-
legal drug trafficking.

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today
to celebrate the life of Tom Schultz, Fire Chief
of Garden Grove, CA. This past weekend, Mr.
Schultz died of stage 4 pancreatic cancer.
Chief Schultz devoted his life to ensuring
the safety and security of all Orange County
residents, spending three decades in the fire
departments of Garden Grove, Fullerton, and
Brea, CA.
In addition to his day-to-day work at the fire
station, Chief Schultz trained and mentored
young firefighters through his work as an in-
structor in Santa Ana College’s fire technology
program, and he was deeply involved in the
management and leadership of the Orange
County Fire Chiefs’ Association.
I commend Chief Schultz for his years of
service and extend my heartfelt condolences
to his family and friends in this difficult time.
I ask all members to join me in remem-
bering Tom Schultz—a public servant, family
man, and leader—for a lifetime of service to
the people and communities of Orange Coun-
ty.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I
reintroduce the Wildlife Conservation and Anti-
Trafficking Act with Congressman Don Young
(R–AK), the Dean of the AK–House.
I thank Congressman Young (R–AK) for his
support as my co-lead and original cosponsor
on this important legislation, as well as our
former colleague Congresswoman Madeleine Z.
Bordallo (D–GU), who sponsored this legis-
lation in the previous Congress.
Around the world, poachers, traffickers, and
transnational criminal organizations respon-
sible for human rights abuses are driving
iconic wildlife to extinction. The Wildlife Con-
servation and Anti-Trafficking Act advances
American leadership in tackling this global cri-
sis. Our bipartisan bill would strengthen fed-
eral enforcement against the global trade in il-
llegal wildlife and seafood products, while also
providing dedicated funding for conservation
efforts, at no expense to taxpayers.
Specifically, our bill would make serious
wildlife trafficking violations predicate offenses
under federal racketeering and anti-organized
crime laws (RICO and Travel Acts). The bill
would also engage whistleblowers, through
monetary incentives, in providing actionable
intelligence needed to bring down global wild-
life trafficking rings. Under our bill, the U.S.
Fish and Wildlife Service would be authorized
to station law enforcement officials and agen-
cy personnel abroad in high-intensity wildlife
trafficking areas, as embeds in American em-
bassies and consulates.
Any penalties, fines, forfeitures, and restitu-
tion paid to the U.S. government for criminal
violations of the federal organized crime, rack-
eteering, and money laundering statutes for
wildlife trafficking offenses would support con-
servation efforts. This provides dedicated
funding for in-country conservation efforts for
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Lastly, our bill includes provisions to crack
don down on illegal, unreported, and unregulated
(IUU) fishing by foreign vessels or fraudulent
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cording to the U.S. State Department, IUU
wildlife trafficking in and for the United States
is estimated to generate billions of dollars
annually for criminal transnational organizations.

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today
to honor Mr. Randy Randazzo for his service to
the community of Carmel Valley, California.
Mr. Randazzo has made a career out of serv-
vice and has fostered an environment of
collectiveness and compassion in his tight-knit
community.
As a World War II Marine Veteran, Mr.
Randazzo heroically served in the Bougainville
Campaign in the Solomon Islands. He served
on the fleet that facilitated the Japanese sur-
rrender, signaling the close of World War II.
Upon returning to his home of Carmel Valley,
Mr. Randazzo dedicated his life to his commu-
nity. He and his wife, Charlene, have owned
and operated the local market in Carmel Val-
ley Village, which has served as the corner-
stone for the community. Randy is also active
in the local Kiwanis Club, where he works to
empower youth to change the world by invest-
ing in their futures.
Among his many achievements, Mr.
Randazzo has been awarded Carmel Valley’s
Good Egg award for Citizen of the Year twice
for his service to the community. Additionally,
he has been recognized by the Carmel Histori-
cal Society for his contributions in organizing
and establishing the Carmel Valley Community
Center. Many called Mr. Randazzo the unoffi-
cial mayor of Carmel Valley, as the small, un-
incorporated community views his leadership
as invaluable and irreplaceable.
I am immensely grateful for Randy
Randazzo’s distinguished service to his coun-
try and the residents of the central coast of
California. Madam Speaker, I ask that my col-
leagues join me in congratulating Mr. Randy
Randazzo on his distinguished career and rec-
ognizing his outstanding citizenship and im-
mense contributions to both Carmel Valley
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fishing often goes hand-in-hand with transnational organized crime, human trafficking and forced labor, and weapons and drug trafficking. American fishermen should never be expected to compete against fraudulent seafood imports harvested with slave labor, especially in the Indo-Pacific region.

Madam Speaker, again I thank Congressmen YOUNG (R-AK) for his partnership as the original cosponsor on this important, bipartisan bill. I urge all Members to join us in cosponsoring the Wildlife Conservation and Anti-Trafficking Act. 

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER
OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 30, 2019

Mr. SMUCKER. Madam Speaker, due to illness I missed Roll Call vote No. 59. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 59.

IN SUPPORT OF PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE
OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 30, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I am proud to be a sponsor of the Paycheck Fairness Act.

This Act is needed to stop discriminatory practices by employers against our mothers, wives, daughters, and granddaughters that do the same job as their male counterparts.

It is sad that today in America, women working full-time, year-round still earn 80 cents, on average, for every dollar earned by men.

Women of color face the brunt of the inequality, with African American women earning 61 cents, Latinas earning 53 cents, and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander women earning 62 cents compared with white, non-Hispanic men.

This year marks the 10-year anniversary of President Barack Obama signing the Lily Ledbetter Act, which made it easier to sue in cases of pay discrimination.

This legislation that we are discussing today—the Paycheck Fairness Act—is but one small step towards that end.

The Paycheck Fairness Act will strengthen the Equal Pay Act—passed more than 45 years ago—and as a result improve the law’s effectiveness, and help to address the persistent wage gap between men and women.

The Paycheck Fairness Act would:

- Clarify acceptable reasons for differences in pay by requiring employers to demonstrate that wage gaps between men and women doing the same work are truly a result of factors other than sex.
- Deter wage discrimination by strengthening penalties for equal pay violations, and by prohibiting retaliation against workers who inquire about employers’ wage practices or disclose their own wages.
- The bill’s approach would ensure that women can obtain the same remedies as those subject to discrimination on the basis of race or national origin.
- Provide women with a fair option to proceed in a class action suit under the Equal Pay Act, and allow women to receive punitive and compensatory damages for pay discrimination.
- Clarify the establishment provision under the Equal Pay Act, which would allow for reasonable comparisons between employees to determine fair wages.
- Authorize additional training for Equal Employment Opportunity Commission staff to better identify and handle wage disputes.
- It will aid in the efficient and effective enforcement of federal anti-pay discrimination laws by requiring the EEOC to develop regulations directing employers to collect wage data, reported by the race, sex, and national origin of employees.
- It will require the U.S. Department of Labor to reinstate activities that promote equal pay, such as: directing educational programs, providing technical assistance to employers, recognizing businesses that address the wage gap, collecting wage-related data, and conducting and promoting research about pay disparities between men and women.
- More importantly for our young ladies going into the workforce it will establish a competitive grant program to develop salary negotiation training for low income women.
- As a Member of the Women’s Caucus I have been fighting for pay equity for American women since before I arrived here as a Representative in 1995, and I believe that equal pay for equal work is a simple matter of justice.
- Wage disparities are not simply a result of the college education levels or life choices.
- In fact, the pay gap between college educated men and women appears first after college, even when women are working full-time in the same fields with the same major as their male counterparts, and continues to widen during the first 10 years in the workforce.
- Further, this persistent wage gap not only impacts the economic security of women and their families, but it also directly affects women’s retirement security tomorrow.
- Now is the time for additional proactive measures to effectively address wage discrimination and eliminate loopholes that have hindered the Equal Pay Act’s effectiveness.
- I urge my colleagues to support this bill, which would allow women to support equality in rights and pay for all Americans by supporting the Paycheck Fairness Act.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF MARY ALICE O’CONNOR

HON. MARK DESAULNIER
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 30, 2019

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Mary Alice O’Connor, a longtime resident of the Bay Area.

Born in January 1943 to an Irish Catholic family, Mary Alice grew up in Chicago, Illinois. In 1965, she headed west on the West Coast and eventually settled in the Bay Area. While raising three children, Mary Alice worked in her family’s printing business and later for a telephone company.

Mary Alice was always passionate about philosophy and spirituality. In 1991, she pursued her goal of bringing peace, joy, and compassion to the world by becoming an ordained Unity minister. She served the community through ceremonies for weddings, memorials, blessings, and other events. Mary Alice also taught inherent beauty and self-expression through spiritual rehabilitation sessions, working to promote physical and spiritual healing.

In the early 2000s, Mary Alice became the Executive Director of the Mt. Diablo Peace and Justice Center in Walnut Creek, CA. During her leadership, the peace center became an engaged and energetic community partner.

Mary Alice passed away on December 3, 2018. She is survived by her sister Margaret O’Connor; her children Glory Marshall, Sikwaya Condon, and Shasta Lockwood; and her grandchildren Chaevez Li Condon, Moses Lockwood, and Jacob Lockwood; her former husband Pat Condon, and her partner Willard Davis.

HONORING DR. TWANA COOKS-ALLEN AT CONGRESSMAN VELA’S BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

HON. FILEMON VELA
OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 30, 2019

Mr. VELA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Twana Cooks-Allen of Harlingen, Texas for her exceptional service to the Rio Grande Valley.

Since earning her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology and Marriage and Family Therapy, Dr. Cooks-Allen has been an esteemed professional in mental health for over 30 years.

Dr. Cooks-Allen’s experience includes support to the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Defense, as well as local and state agencies in Minnesota, Missouri, Illinois, and Texas. Throughout her career, she has helped patients struggling with depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, chronic suicidality, substance abuse, sexual assault, postpartum depression, schizophrenia, and personality disorders.

Dr. Cooks-Allen currently works as Marriage and Family Counselor at the Veterans Affairs Texas Valley Coastal Bend Healthcare System in Harlingen. She is also the proud founder of the Veteran Kids/Teen Program at the Veterans Outreach Center. The program provides children of veterans with emotional, psychological, and educational assistance.

A true champion, Dr. Cooks-Allen also spends her spare time helping our veterans and their children. Every year she hosts a one-week summer camp with activities, meals, and snacks for the children of veterans. Her goal is to create a place for these children to discuss their concerns and fears and to receive support from their peers, while enjoying activities. Not only does Dr. Cooks-Allen dedicate her time to these programs, Dr. Cooks-Allen also funds many of the activities herself.

I am pleased to recognize Dr. Twana Cooks-Allen for her generous and invaluable support in Texas’ 34th Congressional District. Whether working at volunteering with veterans, our district and the State of Texas are forever grateful for her work. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking her, her family, and friends on this special occasion.

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TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF MARY ALICE O’CONNOR

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OF CALIFORNIA

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