

of crime scene investigators. She has attended trainings on crime scene reconstruction and scene logistics, crime scene photography, and the FBI's Field Evidence Response course, among others. She teaches crime scene investigation classes to police officers and investigators across California. Ms. Porter also regularly gives presentations to Lake County high school and middle school students, Boy and Girl Scouts, college classes, and Sheriff's Citizen's Academy students.

Madam Speaker, we thank Ms. Porter for her dedication. For this reason, it is fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

**VETERANS' ACCESS TO CHILD CARE ACT**

SPEECH OF

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 7, 2019*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 840) to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide child care assistance to veterans receiving certain medical services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs:

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Chair, I rise today in support of the Veterans' Access to Child Care Act. This bill ensures that Veterans in my district and around the country have convenient access to no-cost child care when visiting a VA facility for a medical appointment.

After a survey conducted by the VA last decade found that access to child care was a top reason as to why some veterans were missing their medical appointments, a pilot program providing no-cost drop-in child care service for veterans was established as part of the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010. I am proud that the Dallas VA Medical Center is one of four VA facilities that are currently piloting the program. This legislation would make the pilot program permanent across the country.

This program has made it easier for parents within my district to schedule appointments at the Dallas VA Medical Center without having to deal with the stress and worry of finding safe and affordable child care options for their children. I am pleased to see that thanks to this important legislation, child care facilities like the Carousel Academy at the Dallas VA Medical Center may soon open up across the country. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation because veterans nationwide should have access to the same quality child care services that veterans in North Texas have been fortunate to have for the past six years.

**HONORING FIRE CAPTAIN RICHARD LAWLER AS PUBLIC SAFETY HERO OF THE YEAR**

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 8, 2019*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor CAL FIRE Fire

Captain Richard Lawler, whom I have named a Public Safety Hero of the Year in Lake County, California.

Mr. Lawler is from Huntington Beach, California. He began his career in public service in the United States Marine Corps and was deployed to Operation Desert Storm. Mr. Lawler then joined the United States Forest Service's firefighting team. He worked on Hot Shot Crews and fire engines in southern California until he was assigned to the Mendocino National Forest. In 2008 Mr. Lawler joined the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE). He spent three years serving at Parlin Fork Camp, three years at Konocti Camp and two years at Kelsey Cobb Station. For the last three years he has been assigned to Clearlake Oaks Station.

For over twenty years, Mr. Lawler has been a member of the Northshore Fire Protection District. He is a senior member of the Water Rescue and SCUBA Dive Team that serves Lake County and is a firefighter and paramedic for the district. He is also a member of the Lakeport Fire Protection District. Mr. Lawler is also a certified paramedic, rescue diver, and Haz-Mat technician.

Mr. Lawler is committed to public service and dedicated to protecting our community from the ever-present threat of fires. During the Tubbs Fire in 2017, Mr. Lawler was part of a small group that worked to prevent the fire from crossing Calistoga Road, stopping additional damage to Sonoma County. He was then reassigned to the Napa County portion of the fire. He joined the leadership and they worked to stop the fire's advancement towards Lake County. When the Pawnee Fire broke out in 2018, Mr. Lawler raced to keep the fire from spreading into Colusa County in just a few hours. He was also active in the response to the Ranch and River Fires. He was part of the initial attack against the fires and still helps property owners fix their damaged fencing.

Madam Speaker, we thank Mr. Lawler for his dedication. For this reason, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

**HON. MIKE BOST**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 8, 2019*

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I was unavailable to vote in the House on January 30, 2019. Had I been present, I would have voted: Roll Call 60: NAY; Roll Call 61: NAY; Roll Call 62: YEA; Roll Call 63: YEA; Roll Call 64: YEA; and Roll Call 65: NAY.

**HONORING FIRE CAPTAIN STEVE BECKER AS PUBLIC SAFETY HERO OF THE YEAR**

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 8, 2019*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Fire Captain Steve Becker, whom I have named a Public Safety Hero of the Year in Napa County, California.

Mr. Becker was born in Auburn, California, moved to Napa as a young child, and has lived in Yountville for the past twenty years. He took general education courses and received EMT and Law Enforcement certifications from Napa Valley College. He graduated from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo with a Bachelor of Science degree in Recreation Administration, with a focus in Programming and Leadership.

Mr. Becker began his career in 1990 as a Reserve Firefighter with the Napa Fire Department. From 1991 to 1996 he served in other fire departments as well. He worked for the San Luis Obispo County Fire Department, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo Fire Department, Cal Poly Police Department and the San Luis Obispo County Sheriffs Office. In 1996 Mr. Becker became a Professional Firefighter in the Napa Fire Department. He was appointed as a Department Shift Inspector/Investigator in 2001 and in 2010 was promoted to be a Department Captain.

Throughout his life Mr. Becker has remained focused on public service and safety and the greater good of our community. After a Napa student caught on fire from a flame jetting incident at a science camp in the summer of 2018, Mr. Becker became determined to prevent such instances from occurring. He devoted much of his time to researching flame jetting and has become a passionate advocate for flame arrestors and H.R. 806, which would require compliant flame mitigation devices to be used on portable fuel containers for flammable liquid fuels.

Madam Speaker, we thank Steve Becker for his dedication. For this reason, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

**HONORING MRS. MICHELLE CROWLEY ON HER RECEPTION OF THE MOLLY PITCHER AWARD**

**HON. SCOTT PERRY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 8, 2019*

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, today I offer my heartfelt congratulations to Mrs. Michelle Crowley, a resident of Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania, who is receiving the Exchange Club of Carlisle's prestigious Molly Pitcher Award.

Chartered by the National Exchange Club in 1949, the Exchange Club of Carlisle gives individuals the opportunity to use their time and talents to benefit their local communities and the country as a whole. The Molly Pitcher Award, which has annually honored citizens for their outstanding service to the Carlisle community since 1969, is named after the revolutionary war heroine who risked her life to bring water to artillerymen under fire. As evidenced by receiving this honor, Mrs. Crowley's charitable endeavors have made a significant impact and improved the lives of many in central Pennsylvania.

Throughout her successful career in business, Mrs. Crowley has served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Association of Chamber Professionals, the Cumberland Area Economic Development Corporation, and the United Way of Carlisle & Cumberland County, as well as serving as president of the nearly 700-member Carlisle Area Chamber of Commerce. Mrs. Crowley's